

## 2016 Victorian State Skeet Carnival

Held at Frankston Australian Clay Target Club 28-31 January 2016

With 115 pre-nominations received from Shooters representing every state in Australia, and the first time the Victorian State Skeet Carnival would be shot over six grounds, the foundation for a successful four days of skeet shooting had been set.

After a warm start on Day One and a reduced field for the Gauges, interstaters quickly realised Melbourne's weather of four seasons in one hour. Thunder, lightning and heavy rain stopped competition for forty-five minutes. With a close eye on the weather radar, competition got back underway with clearing and cooler conditions.



Overall 28 Gauge M Buttigieg

With 6 shooters clean in the 28 Gauge, Lorraine Hughes was right on the tail of Michael Buttigieg as the last two remaining in the shoot off. Lorraine unfortunately missed her 66<sup>th</sup> target in the shoot off giving her a win in AA and Ladies (115/116) and Michael claiming overall with 118/118. Laurie Durham missed his 39<sup>th</sup> target in the shoot off giving him 2<sup>nd</sup> in AA (88/89). Laurie Chelepy also making the Overall shoot off, missed his 8<sup>th</sup> target and gave him a win in Veterans (57/58). Antony Ballarino, after a shoot off with Jack Stockdale, won Juniors with 54/58 and was the start of what would become a very successful Carnival for him. Sam Arcuri won A grade outright with 47/50 and Greg Miller claimed success in a shoot off with Mark McDonald and Wayne Read for 2<sup>nd</sup> in A Grade (55/59). Andrew Beveridge won B Grade with 48/50 and Timothy Stockdale 2<sup>nd</sup> in B Grade after defeating John Pethybridge in a shoot off (48/54). Outright place getters in C Grade with a win to Jack Bird (45/50) and 2<sup>nd</sup> to Ron Peno (44/50).



28 Gauge 1st AA and Ladies  
L Hughes



Overall and Juniors .410  
Bore A Ballarino

No possibles in the .410 Bore, gave Junior Antony Ballarino the outright win for Overall as well as the Juniors Title with 49/50. Mark Rosenboom and Michael Buttigieg went into a shoot off for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in AA and with Mark missing his first target out (48/51), Michael claimed 1<sup>st</sup> with 49/51. Outright 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in A Grade with Paul Kouroupis 46/50 and Pat Dury 44/50. John Pethybridge 1<sup>st</sup> in B Grade with 47/50 and after a shoot off with Adrian Cousins, also took out Veterans. Simon Hewitt won 2<sup>nd</sup> in B Grade with 46/50. C Grade places were determined with a shoot off between Ron Peno and Peter McWilliam with Ron successful with 40/54 and Peter in 2<sup>nd</sup> place with 39/54. Lorraine Hughes proved that she was warming up for a successful carnival with a win in the Ladies (46/50).



.410 Bore 2nd in C  
P McWilliam

Day Two and competition started getting serious with the next five events all counting towards the prestigious High Gun. 7 entered the shoot off, with a combination of AA, A, B and Lady shooters, after shooting the 20 Gauge event clean. Again Lorraine Hughes hung in tight but missing her 33<sup>rd</sup> target placed her in 2<sup>nd</sup> in AA and a win in the Ladies. It was then down to Richard Sammon, Timothy Stockdale and David O'Sullivan to determine Overall. Richard Sammon missed his 40<sup>th</sup> target and resulted in a win in AA (89/90) with Timothy Stockdale missing his 48<sup>th</sup> and placing him in 1<sup>st</sup> in B Grade. David O'Sullivan took out overall with 98/98. Christian Lagos, missing his 8<sup>th</sup> target in the Overall shoot off, took out 1<sup>st</sup> in A



20 Gauge Overall  
D O'Sullivan



20 Gauge 1st AA R Sammon

Grade (57/58) and after a shoot off with Paul Kouroupis and Thomas Laber, Sam Arcuri took out 2<sup>nd</sup> with 57/58. Paul went on to win Veterans with 49/50. Reg Petts beat Simon Hewitt and Leonie Johnston in a shoot off to claim 2<sup>nd</sup> in B Grade (56/58), Jack Bird had an outright win for 1<sup>st</sup> in C Grade with 46/50 and 2<sup>nd</sup> going to Ron Peno (42/50). Antony Ballarino and Jack Stockdale shot off for the Junior Title with Antony winning (80/83).



20 Gauge 2nd A S Arcuri

The 50 Target Handicap event saw 47 shooters finish with 50/50 and a long shoot off ahead. Carrying the remaining 8 in the shoot off over until Sunday, there was finally a result! Leigh Roberts taking 1<sup>st</sup> place with a whopping 162/162. 2<sup>nd</sup> went to Jack Bird with 161/162, 3<sup>rd</sup> and Veterans Adrian Cousens (157/158), 4<sup>th</sup> David O'Sullivan (154/155) and 5<sup>th</sup> Naidos Markou with 153/154 and 1 target to spare! Sarah Bennet was up there in the shoot off but missed her 63<sup>rd</sup> target landing her the Ladies Title with 112/113. And an outright Juniors win to Antony Ballarino with 49/50.



Handicap 1st to 5th L Roberts, J Bird, A Cousens, D O'Sullivan, N Markou



Overall, 1st and 2nd AA 100 Target 12 Gauge L Durham, A Cousens, L Roberts

Day Three was the 100 Target 12 Gauge and the Victorian Teams events. 6 Shooters shot the 100 and this gave Mark McDonald a one-way ticket from A to AA for the events on Day Four. Although missing his 35<sup>th</sup> target in the shoot off, Mark still managed to take 1<sup>st</sup> in A Grade finishing on 134/135. With Glenn Walker and Antony Ballarino exiting the shoot off early and Laurie Durham not far behind them (2<sup>nd</sup> AA 119/120), Adrian Cousens and Leigh Roberts were left to battle it out for

Overall. An unlucky miss of his 118<sup>th</sup> target gave Leigh 1<sup>st</sup> in AA (217/218) and Overall and Veterans went to Adrian Cousens with a score of 218/218. Some awesome shooting from two of Australia's best skeet shooters. Antony Ballarino still managed to win Juniors with 113/114. Max Oakley won outright 2<sup>nd</sup> in A Grade with 99/100 and Rick Beasley and Sim Nee Neoh taking an agreed 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in B Grade with 95/100. Jack Bird and Ben Burchell shot off for a place in C Grade with Ben taking 1<sup>st</sup> (100/108) and Jack 2<sup>nd</sup> (99/108). Some more top shooting from Lorraine Hughes saw her take out Ladies with a 97/100.



100 Target 12 Gauge 1st B R Beasley

With the 100 Target event concluded, it was time to announce the Open, Ladies, Veteran and Junior Victorian Postal Teams. Congratulations to Leigh Roberts, David O'Sullivan, Mal Briggs, Max Oakley, Laurie Durham, Sox Pilipasidis,

Hayden Mountjoy, Danny Sajn, Paul Johnston, Michael Buttigieg, Glenn Clarke, Jack Beveridge, Greg Miller, Gil Farish and Mark McDonald for making the Open team. David O'Sullivan took out the Postal Team High Gun.



*Open Postal Team*

Making the Ladies Postal Team was Jacqui Durham, Leoni Johnston, Alison Harwood, Linda Watson and Julie Freeman with Jacqui Durham taking out the High Gun. In the Veterans, Adrian Cousens, Gerry Petruska, Cliff Chambers, Jim Turner and Bill Hine with Adrian Cousens winning the High Gun. Max Sammon took out the Junior Postal Team High Gun and joining the Team; Adam Beechey, Peter Kostigiannis, Jack Stockdale and Ben Burchell.



*Ladies Postal Team*



*Postal Team High Guns*

After a 50 Target event for Open and 25 Target Event for Ladies, Veterans and Juniors, the top five in the Open and three in each of the remaining three categories, were chosen to represent Victoria in the Shoulder to Shoulder teams at the 2016 National Skeet Carnival. Congratulations to Leigh Roberts, David O'Sullivan, Mal Briggs, Max Oakley and Sox Pilipasidis for making the Open Shoulder to Shoulder Team with Laurie Durham and Hayden Mountjoy

the Reserves. Special mention goes to Sox for making a Victorian Sporting, Trap and Skeet Team. A great achievement to excel in more than one discipline.



*Open Shoulder to Shoulder Team*

Jacqui Durham, Leonie Johnston and Alison Harwood made the Ladies Shoulder to Shoulder Team with Linda Watson and Julie Freeman the Reserves. For the Veterans Shoulder to Shoulder Team; Gerry Petruska, Cliff Chambers and Jim Turner with Adrian Cousens and Bill Hine in as Reserves. Max Sammon, Adam Beechey and Jack Stockdale will be representing Victoria in the Juniors Team with Peter Kostigiannis and Ben Burchell in as Reserves.



*Junior Shoulder to Shoulder Team*



*Ladies Shoulder to Shoulder Team*



*Veterans Shoulder to Shoulder Team*



*Ian Hale with Adrian Cousens*

Day Three also saw Ian Hale inducted into the VCTA Hall of Fame for his shooting achievements and as only the second Skeet Shooter to be inducted, this made the induction even more honourable.

The Champion of Champions and Doubles events on Day Four were the last two events of the Carnival. Four shot 50/50 for a place in the shoot off for Overall in the Champion of Champions 50 target event. Ben Baker won the shoot off taking overall (54/54) with Laurie Rodden and Michael Buttigieg taking 1<sup>st</sup> (57/58) and 2<sup>nd</sup> (58/60) in AA. Sarah Bennet was not far behind on 57/60 taking out Ladies. A Grade was won outright with Dean Baird taking 1<sup>st</sup> (49/50) and Gerry Petruska 2<sup>nd</sup> (48/50). Leonie Johnston won B Grade with 46/50 and a quick shoot off with Linda Watson saw Andrew Beveridge in 2<sup>nd</sup> place with 46/51. Another fine performance from Jack Bird gave him an outright win in C Grade (47/50) and another quick shoot off, this time between Andrew Watson and Nadine Katarski, saw Andrew take 2<sup>nd</sup> in C Grade with 42/52. After a shoot off with Adrian Cousens and Peter Vosper, Gerry Petruska was victorious in the Veterans with 56/58. Again Antony Ballarino took out the Juniors, one target ahead of Jack Stockdale, with 46/50.



*Champion of Champions  
M Buttigieg (2nd AA), Ben Baker Overall,  
Laurie Rodden (1st AA)*



*Doubles Overall L Roberts*

A nice and quick 50 Target Doubles Event saw Leigh Roberts, Laurie Rodden and Michael Buttigieg into a shoot off for Overall with scores of 49/50. Laurie Rodden missing one in his second pair gave him second in AA (52/54) with Leigh Roberts taking overall on 60/62 and Michael Buttigieg 2<sup>nd</sup> in AA (58/62). Greg Miller won A Grade with 48/50 and Jim Kalaboukas shooting off for 2<sup>nd</sup> with Ryan missing one target in the first pair to give Jim the win with 49/52. All other placings in this event were outright with Simon Hewitt 1<sup>st</sup> in B Grade on 44/50, one target ahead of Marie Carmody (43/50). Jack Bird, with 3 targets ahead of Ben Burchell took 1<sup>st</sup> in C Grade on 46/50 and Ben placing 2<sup>nd</sup> with 43/50. Ladies went to Lorraine Hughes with 46/50 and gave Lorraine the Ladies State Title in 5 out of 7 events during the Carnival. Laurie Chelepy took the Veterans with 47/50 and one target ahead of Paul Kouroupis. And to claim 7 out of 7 Junior State Titles, Antony Ballarino finished the Carnival with a 47/50 in the Doubles, 4 targets ahead of Ben Burchell.



*1st & 2nd A Doubles J Kalaboukas  
(2nd), G Miller (1st)*

With all events now concluded, it was time to determine the High Guns and 2 Man and 3 Man Teams. It was Frankston Australian Clay Target Club represented all the way in the Teams with Glenn Clarke, Michael Buttigieg and David O'Sullivan taking the 3 Man Team with a score of 882/900 and Michael Buttigieg and Glenn Clarke the 2 Man Team with a score of 587/600.



*Doubles 1st & 2nd C Grade  
B Burchell (2nd) J Bird (1st)*



*3 Man Team D O'Sullivan, G Clarke, M Buttigieg*

Leigh Roberts was shining 'bright like a diamond' with only 3 points down to take the 2016 Victorian State Carnival Overall High Gun with 297/300.



*2 Man Team G Clarke, M Buttigieg*



*Overall High Gun L Roberts*

Add that to his Overall win in the Handicap, AA win in the 100 Target 12 Gauge, Overall win in the Doubles and a member of the Postal and Shoulder to Shoulder Teams, and it is clear that Leigh had a cracking Carnival and his experience and talent so evident.

An equal 2 points behind Leigh Roberts, entered David O'Sullivan and Michael Buttigieg into a shoot off for the AA High Gun (295/300). David missed his 16<sup>th</sup> target leaving Michael victorious with 311/316. Some fantastic shooting also from Mal Briggs, Glenn Clarke and Laurie Rodden each with 292/300 over the five events, and Nigel Hughes, Nathan Campbell and Mark Rosenboom on 291/300. Paul Kouroupis claimed both the A Grade and Veteran High Gun on 288/300, Timothy Stockdale B Grade with 280/300 and Jack Bird C Grade High Gun to add to the other 5 State Titles won over the



*Grade High Guns J Bird (C), T Stockdale (B), M Buttigieg (A)*

Carnival. In such great form, it was no surprise that Lorraine Hughes took out the Ladies High Gun with 285/300 and Antony Ballarino the Junior High Gun with 289/300.



*Junior High Gun A Ballarino, Ladies High Gun L Hughes*

The Victorian State Skeet Carnival is over for another year and WOW what a Carnival it was. The grounds looked spectacular, the events ran smoothly and the buzz and atmosphere in the clubrooms and around the grounds proved what a close knit group the Skeet community is.

With over \$12,000 offered in cash prize money and without sponsorship, the Frankston Australian Clay Target Club definitely left its mark on this event. To the Club Committee and the effort contributed to the Carnival, the Skeet Community is thankful. Thank you to all who supported this event from the Shoot Marshall, Ground Staff, Handicapper, Office Staff, Kitchen Staff and most importantly the Shooters. We look forward to the next Victorian State Skeet Carnival at Melbourne Gun Club 26-29 January 2017.

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