

CLAY TARGET



*Michael Buttigieg
2021 Skeet Hall of Fame
Inductee with his family*

INSIDE

ACTA 2021 Skeet Nationals Report
ACTA 2021 Skeet Hall of Fame Dinner
Roma CTC – 2021 Roman Chariot Shoot
Victorian Universal Trench Championships
Kempsey CTC – 100 Year Anniversary



2021 ACTA Skeet Hall of Fame Dinner

The Range Function Centre, National Ground, Wagga Wagga
MONDAY MAY 17 2019

Monday night of the Skeet Nationals is always very much anticipated as it kickstarts the week of Skeet shooting with a review and celebration of the many achievements made by the Skeet community in the previous shooting year. This year being a little different as essentially, we missed 2020 due to Covid 19.

To see the great turnout of over 120 attendees mingling and enjoying each other's company was a great thing to witness. The ACTA Range Function Centre provided a fantastic venue and the atmosphere was tremendous with people dressing up and socialising with Skeet shooters from all over the country and enjoying the food and service.

ACTA National President Mal Dyson welcomed the gathering and made special comments regarding the Skeet shooting community. Mal also thanked the sponsors for their support of the Skeet Nationals and thanked the ASSA for their behind the scenes work to assist the ACTA to compile and organise the Skeet Hall of Fame.

The 2019 year in review looked back at the 2019 shooting year. There were some wonderful shooting achievements. We kicked off by recognising skeet shooters who had achieved either their First State Title or First National Title in 2019.

First State Title winners were:

Cam Gardner Vic, Vic State Handicap 2019
Michael Delase SA, SA State Handicap 2019
Steve Zadow SA, SA COC 2019
Ramsay Fish NT, NT State 12 gauge 2019
Charlie Cook Vic, NSW State Doubles 2019
Adam Corless QLD, QLD State 12 gauge and HOA 2019
Joe Scalila QLD, QLD State Handicap 2019
John Carbone WA, WA State Handicap 2019
Carl Strachan Tas, Tas State Handicap 2019

First National Title winners were:

Hayden Mountjoy, National Handicap 2019



Hayden Mountjoy holding his 2019 Long Breaks awards with Paul Johnston

Annual Long Break Awards:

20 gauge, Leigh Roberts, 168 Break
Doubles, Shane Bennett, 107 Break
12 gauge, Hayden Mountjoy, 318 Break



Richard Salmon with his 2018 28 gauge Zolli Long Break award presented by Sox Pilipasidis

Grand Slam Awards:

The Grand Slam in Skeet shooting is 200 target breaks in 12 gauge, 100 target break in 20 gauge and 100 target breaks in Skeet Doubles.

Peter Vella was the lone recipient of the Grand Slam award and his award was accepted by Wayne Petersen who spoke about Peter's shooting achievements and his own pending retirement from Skeet shooting.

National Record Presentation:

Richard Westlake, NZ 100/100 410 bore, 2019 Skeet Nationals

Michael Buttigieg, 125 410 bore, 2019 Skeet Nationals

Adrian Cousens, 199 28 gauge, 2019 Skeet Nationals



Shane Bennett with his 2019 Doubles Long Breaks award with Paul Johnston



Richard Westlake with his 2019 410 bore Long Break award with Sox Pilipasidis





Michael Buttigieg, 2019 28 gauge Long Break award recipient with Sox Pilipasidis



Sox Pilipasidis with Adrian Cousens, 2019 28 gauge Long Break award recipient & Richard Salmon

AA Elite Award:

Harry Bader, AA Elite 38
 Richard Sammon, AA Elite 39
 Phil House, AA Elite 40

Adrian Cousens Award:

The finalists for the evening were:

Michael Buttigieg 80 Points
 Jack Stockdale 80 Points
 Glenn Clarke 40 Points
 Richard Sammon 40 Points

The Adrian Cousens medal was won By Michael Buttigieg of Frankston Australia Gun Club in Victoria.

Masters Award

This year was the continuation of the Skeet Masters awards and medals were presented to the 20 gauge qualifiers. The Master awards are presented to shooters who have achieved double the breaks required to win a Grand Slam award, that is, in the 20 gauge the score needed is a 200 break.

Terry Marsden from the ACTA presented the Skeet 20 Gauge Masters award to the following Skeet shooters.

- Adrian Cousens, 1988 Savannah USA, 200
- Paul Johnston, 2002 San Antonio USA, 200
- Julian Lucchetti, 2006 Wagga, 222
- Leigh Roberts, 2006 Wagga, 240
- Gil Farish, 2008 Wagga, 322
- Laurie Sceresini, 2008 Wagga, 279
- Laurie Durham, 2009 San Antonio USA, 200
- Shane O'Brien, 2012 San Antonio USA, 200
- Hayden Mountjoy, 2013 Melbourne, 208
- David O Sullivan, 2014 San Antonio USA, 200
- Mal Briggs, 2017 San Antonio USA, 200
- Matthew De Paoli, 2018 San Antonio USA, 218
- Michael Buttigieg, 2018 San Antonio USA, 225
- Harry Bader, 2018 San Antonio USA, 225





Shane O'Brien, accepting the AA Elite badge on behalf of Phil House with Harry Bader, Richard Salmon & ACTA National President Mal Dyson



Adrian Cousens Award finalists: Glenn Clarke, Michael Buttigieg, Richard Salmon & Jack Stockdale with Adrian Cousens





Adrian Cousens Award winner, Michael Buttigieg, receiving one of his many recognitions for the night with Adrian Cousens

All Skeet Masters Award

The last award of the evening was the All Skeet Masters Award which is for the Skeet shooter who has completed all legs of the Master's category, scoring masters breaks in all categories. 12 Gauge is a score of 400 x 400; 20 Gauge 200 x 200; Skeet Doubles 200 x 200.

This inaugural All Skeet Masters was presented to Michael Buttigieg of Victoria.

2021 Skeet Hall of Fame Inductee Michael Buttigieg

Michael Buttigieg first started shooting and hunting with friends in the USA and graduated to clay target shooting in the USA by shooting at the Thunder Mountain Public Range in Upstate New Jersey. Relocating to Australia, Michael did not shoot for several years until he got himself and his family established in Australia. Michael joined the Frankston Gun Club and started out shooting a



*Masters award 20 gauge qualifiers: Back L-R: Laurie Durham, Hayden Mountjoy, Shane O'Brien, Harry Bader, Michael Buttigieg
Front – Gil Farish, Paul Johnston, Laurie Scerescini, Adrian Cousens, Davis O'Sullivan Mal Briggs & Mathew De Paoli*



Lanber hunting shotgun he purchased from Mialls Gun Shop. Michael shot his first State titles in Victoria in 2011, coming runner up in the 12 gauge event. With a new Browning, Michael started to compete in many ACTA competitions and he started having success winning the 28 gauge Peter Vella Trophy at the NSW State Carnival in 2012 and then winning the Tasmanian 12 gauge State title in October 2012.

2013 saw Michael post some incredible achievements. Michael came runner-up in the National 20 gauge event and then proceeded to win the 2013 Australian National High Gun event. Michael then travelled to New Zealand in November 2013 and did exactly the same. He came runner-up in the 20 gauge event and won the NZ High Gun after shoot-offs with some very experienced shooters. Michael was the first skeet



All Skeet Masters award recipient Michael Buttigieg with presenter Glenn Clarke



Chris Hughes presenting Michael Buttigieg with his Induction into the Hall of Fame certificate



Family and friends of Michael

shooter in modern times to win both Skeet High Guns in the same year.

By the end of 2014 Michael had won a total of 6 National titles 3 x National runner-ups and

8 State titles and had amassed enough Hall of Fame points to qualify (210) for the Skeet Hall of Fame after only competing for 3 years.

2017 saw Michael post some amazing results, the



first beating Adrian Cousens Skeet Long Break of 565 with a new Long Break of 783 straight in the 12 gauge. Michael joined a very elite few with a Skeet long run over 500 straight, only achieved by Adrian Cousens and David O'Sullivan.

It was David and Craig O'Neill from Queensland who Michael shot against in various national events that pushed him to achieve his long run out to 783. Michael of course won the High Gun in 2017. To top that off Michael also ran a 225 straight in Skeet Doubles at Bairnsdale and set the new Australian record for Skeet Doubles.

2018 saw Michael represent Australia at the World Skeet Championships in San Antonio, USA. Michael shot the 150 x 150 clean in the 12 gauge event and shot off with the current stars of the skeet game in the USA, being LP Giambrione and Mike Schmitt in the stadium field for a third place overall in the World 12 gauge event at his first World shoot! Michael also shot a 545/550 and finished in the top 10 worldwide in the World Shoot HOA.

Michael is a dedicated family man and his wife Mary Buttigieg also spoke at the Hall of Fame



ACTA Skeet Hall of Fame members present on the night. L-R: Laurie Chelepy, Craig O'Neil, Paul Johnston, Michael Buttigieg, Adrian Cousens, David O'Sullivan & Gil Farish



Michael being congratulated by ASSA President Shane Bennett



Michael with Glenn Clarke after presentations

dinner about Michael, the man off the skeet field. Michael is very much enjoying the next chapter in shooting Skeet with his son Francesco, who this year, shot his first Skeet Nationals, and is enjoying his son's Skeet journey.

I think that there may be more than one Buttigieg in the winner's circle in years to come!

At the time of his induction Michael has amassed 660 Hall of Fame points in his 10-year shooting career. 18 National titles, 10 National runners-up,

47 State titles, 7 x All Australian Teams, 5 X Glenn Trophy Teams, 7 x Trans-Tasman Teams, 1 x World Team, 11 x Victorian Postal Teams, 8 x Victorian Shoulder to Shoulder Teams, Long Break record holder 12 gauge 783, Long Break record holder Skeet Doubles 225, Long Break record holder 410 bore 125, AA Elite Number 25, Grand Slam 2015, 2 x Adrian Cousens Medals, inducted into Australian Hall of Fame 2021.

Michael is truly deserving of his induction to the 2021 Skeet Hall of Fame.