

NZ Skeet Championships 2024

NZ 28 Gauge Skeet Championship

HOA Shane Bennett, Australia 50. AA Grade 1 st Brian Thomson 50 Huntly, 2nd Matt Fallon 50 Thames, 3rd Austin Gibbes 50 Australia. A Grade 1st Cliff Erskine 49, Southland, 2nd Ray Everett 49 Waihora, 3rd Eric Dais 48 Palmerston North. B Grade 1st Grant Andrews 47 Auckland Met, 2nd Owen Robinson 44 Waikato, 3rd Harry Wilson 42 Waihora. C Grade 1st Geoff Lange 42 Wakatipu, 2nd Bronwyn Groot 39 Waitemata, 3rd Jim Anderson 39 Waihora. Ladies Lorraine Hughes 49 Australia, Junior Austin Gibbes 50 Australia, Veterans Brian Thomson 50 Whakatane, Super Veterans Ray Everett 49 Waihora.

NZ 410 Gauge Skeet Championship

HOA Matt Fallon 50 Thames. AA Grade 1 st Andy Peter 49 Marlborough, 2nd Jacko Jann 48 Waihora, 3rd Dave Peter 48 Marlborough. A Grade 1st Shaun Gwillim 47 Whakatane, 2nd Peter Boyd 46 Waihora, 3rd Jim Dobson 46 Whakatane. B Grade 1st Graham Geater 42 Whakatane, 2nd Harry Wilson 41 Waihora, 3rd Mark Simpson 40 Waitemata. C Grade 1st Geoff Lange 36 Wakatipu, 2nd Jim Anderton 32 Waihora, 3rd Bronwyn Groot 28 Auckland Met. Ladies Lorraine Hughes 37 Australia, Juniors Austi Gibbes 48 Australia,, Veteran Shane Quinn 48 Palmerston North, Super Veterans Jim Dobson 46, Whakatane.

NZ 20 Gauge Skeet Championship, sponsored by Target Products, HOA Mason Reed 99 Northern Wairoa. AA Grade 1 st Clark Pirie 99 Wakatipu, 2nd Matthew De Paoli 99 Australia, 3rd Shane Bennett 98 Australia. A Grade 1st James Cannard 97 Waikato, 2nd Hamish Wilson 96 Waihora, 3rd David Henry 96 Waitemata. B Grade 1st Johnathon King 92 Wanaka, 2nd Sandro Dyer 89 Balfour, 3rd Grant Andrews 89 Auckland Met. C Grade 1st Geoff Lange 87 Wakatipu, 2nd Chris Robinson 84 Waikato 3rd Oliver Skene 83 Waihora. Ladies Kathryn Lange 95 Dunedin, Juniors Alex Smith 94 Matura,

Veterans Peter Shuttleworth 97 Nelson Waimea, Super Veterans Ray Everett 92 Waihora.

NZ Skeet Handicap Championship, sponsored by Gun City
1 st Owen Robinson, Waikato., 2nd James Sullivan Whakatane, 3rd Cohen Newton Palmerston North, 4th Andrew Prescott, Wanganui, 5th Cole MacPhee, Rotorua, 6th Robin Wallace, Palmerston North. Ladies Bronwyn Groot, Auckland Met, Junior James Sullivan, Whakatane, Veterans Robin Wallace, Palmerston North, Super Veterans John Tonkin, Waitemata.

Webber Ellis North/South Skeet Teams Open 1st South (Jackson Hann, Michael Hartstonge, Clark Pirie, Kelvin Gutsell, Gregor McKenzie) 117, 2nd North Shane Quinn, Jim Dobson, Mason Reed, Eric dais, John Tonkin) 114. Ladies 1st South (Kathryn Lange, Andrea Horton-Gaskin, Sheryl Anglem) 62, 2nd North Kaitlin Elliot, Bronwyn Groot, Alexi Wood) 55. Juniors 1st South (Alex Smith, Harry Wilson, Johnathon King) 66, 2nd North Aaron Westlake, Kade Maynard, James Sullivan) 63, Veterans 1st South (Ray Everett, Mike Millard, Peter Shuttleworth) 65, 2nd North (Steven Cooper, Grant Preston, Mark Walsh) 64.

NZ Skeet Championship, sponsored by Target Products Ltd
HOA George Papachristoforos, Australia 100. AA Grade 1 st Alex Smith, Matura 99, 2nd Clark Pirie, Wakatipu 98, 3rd Dave Peter, Marlborough 98. A Grade 1st Michael Dobbie, Southland 97, 2nd James Cannard 96, 3rd Eric Dais, Palmerston North 96. B Grade 1st Chloe Tipple, Canterbury 96, 2nd Owen Robinson, Waikato 93, 3rd Harry Wilson, Waihora 91. CC Grade 1st Oliver Skene, Waihora 92, 2nd Cohen Newton, Wanganui, 3rd Geoff Lange, Wakatipu 82. Ladies Chloe Tipple, Canterbury 96, Juniors George Papachristoforos, Australia 100, Veterans Kelvin Gutsell, Matura 97, Super Veterans Eric Dais, Palmerston North 96. Two person teams 1st Andy and Dave Peter, Marlborough 194, 2nd Shane Bennet, Wayne Peterson NSW 193. Five person team 1st Shane Bennett, Wayne Peterson, Austin Gibbs Paul An, Michael Kruger-Davis, NSW 477, 2nd= Michael Hartstonge, Kelvin Gutsell, Alex Smith, William Watson, Cliff Erskine, southland 468, Matt Fallon, Mason Reed, Brian Thomson, Mark Walsh, Steven Cooper, BOP 468.

2023 Skeet Long Run for the year, Clark Pirie, Wakatipu 205.

NZ Skeet Doubles Championship, sponsored by Falcon Ammo
HOA Matt Fallon, Thames 97. AA Grade 1 st Jacko Hann, Waihora 94,
2nd Dean Everett Waikato 94, 3rd Andy Peter Marlborough 93. A
Grade 1st Grant Preston Whakatane 90, 2nd Paul An Australia 89,
3rd John Tonkin, Waitemata 89. B Grade 1st Chloe Tipple
Canterbury 92, 2nd Jarrod Watt Southland 88, 3rd Harry Wilson
Waihora 88. C Grade 1st Cohen Newton Wanganui 87, 2nd Oliver
Skene Waihora 77, 3rd Ric Robinson Thames 75. Ladies Chloe
Tipple Canterbury 91, Juniors Austin Gibbes Australia 91, Veterans
Nigel Hughes Australia 92, Super Veteran John Tonkin Waitemata
89.

NZ Skeet High Gun, Sponsored by Beretta
HOA High Gun Matt Fallon, Thames 431. AA Grade Andy Peter,
Marlborough 430, A Grade Paul An, Australia 416, B Grade Chloe
Tipple, Canterbury 142, C Grade Oliver Skene, Waihora 137. Ladies
Lorraine Hughes, Australia 406, Juniors Austin Gibbes, Australia
425, Veterans Peter Shuttleworth, Nelson Waimea 426, Super
Veterans John Tonkin, Waitemata 411.

Aust NZ Trans Tasman Skeet Postal Challenge Teams:

Open Dean Everett, Alex Smith, Andy Peter, Peter Shuttleworth,
Dave Peter, Eric Dais, Mark Walsh, James Cannard, Clark Pirie,
James Sullivan, Steven Cooper, Choe Tipple. Reserves Kelvin Gutsell,
Matt Fallon. Ladies Kathryn Lange, Alexi Wood, Tarsh Pescini,
Andrea Horton-Gaskin, Bronwyn Groot, Jody McLean. Reserve
Deborah Pritchard. Juniors Oliver Sene, Harry Wilson, Aaron
Westlake, Johnathan King, Cohen Newton, Kade Maynard. Reserves
Lachlan Dean, Cole MacPhee. Veterans Kelvin Gutsell, Ray Everett,
Gregor McKenzie, Bruce Webb, Grant Preston, Tony Truss. Reserves
David Henry, Willie Watson.

Aussies at New Zealand Skeet Nationals

In late November, an intrepid group of Australian shooters headed to the 'Land of the Long White Cloud' to teach those Kiwi's how to shoot at the NZ Skeet Nationals, held at the Waikato Clay Target Club. The Australian contingent was made up of two juniors, Austin Gibbs and George Papachristoforos, lady shooter Lorraine Hughes, and Nigel Hughes, Matt DePaoli, Wayne Peterson, Shane Bennett, Paul An, Brian Clarke and Michael Kruger-Davis.

On the first day, Shane Bennett started the charge by winning the NZ 28 Gauge Skeet Championship HOA. Supported by Lorraine Hughes and Austin Gibbs taking out the Ladies and Junior titles respectively. Austin also finished 3rd in AA grade.

In the afternoon, the .410 bore Championship proved a little harder for the team although Lorraine Hughes and Austin Gibbs again won their respective sections. By the end of day one, the Aussies' presence on the podium was obvious for all to see.

Day two was the 20 Gauge Championship, and at



28 Gauge Overall winner, Shane Bennett with Austin Gibbs (Junior) & Lorraine Hughes (Ladies)

the end of the competition, Matt DePaoli was in the shoot-off for Overall after shooting 99/100 and secured 2nd in AA grade, with Shane Bennett being placed third in AA grade with 98/100. After the event we were part of the gathered audience to see Dean Everett inducted into the NZ Hall of Fame.

Throughout the week the weather was amazing and by that, I mean nothing like I had ever seen before. Sunny skies, dark foreboding clouds, light misty rain,



Hall of Fame: Austin Gibbs, Wayne Peterson, Michael Kruger-Davis, Ray Everett, Nigel Hughes, Dean Everett (inductee), Lorraine Hughes, Shane Bennett and Brian Clarke. (Absent Matt De Paoli, Paul An and George Papachristoforos)

heavy downpours, wind, changing light conditions, sunshine again, and sometimes this happened in the space of completing one round of skeet.

The handicap event was an all-New Zealand affair, so nothing to report here.



NZ Skeet Championship Overall winner, George Papachristoforos, 100/100

Day four saw the highly coveted, main event with the NZ Skeet Championship. At the end of the first 50 targets young George Papachristoforos had come in with 50/50.

I was shooting in the same squad and the focus and dedication to executing each shot was a delight to watch. By the time we went out to shoot the last 50 targets there was quite a gallery

because by this time, George was the only shooter who could come in clean. Over the next two rounds the weather and light changed several times but George was able to hold it together and shoot a very convincing 100/100 to take the NZ Skeet Championship. George has the honour of featuring on the front cover of Clay Target for this month.

This event also housed the two-person and five-person team competition. Shane Bennett and Wayne Peterson were placed 2nd in the 2-person team and the team from New South Wales, Shane Bennett, Wayne Peterson, Austin Gibbs, Paul An and Michael Kruger-Davis won the team event.



Junior High Gun Austin Gibbs, with High Gun sponsor Andy Peter

The final day saw the Doubles competition. Paul An was placed 2nd in A grade, Austin Gibbs won the Junior Section and Nigel Hughes won his first veterans section prize.

After the shooting ceased there was only the High Guns to be determined. Austin and Lorraine won their sections: Junior and Ladies. Paul An had to shoot off for the A grade High Gun. The format was 14 targets from station 2 to station 6 using a .410. Paul held his nerve and severely punished each target to claim the A grade High Gun.

A great week was had by all. Excellent targets, great competition, friendly atmosphere, wonderful hospitality.



NSW Provincial Team: Shane Bennett, Wayne Peterson, Austin Gibbs, Paul An & Michael Kruger-Davis