

22/11/2024

Natives Rifle Club No4 Inc

Captains Report for 2024

Natives Rifle Club continues to be the largest and strongest club in the MDRA. New members were welcomed to the Natives family, many members competed in international and state teams, there were several wins in fixtures and many members performed well in Kings Prize shoots and prize meetings.

Natives welcomed Peter, Debbie, Joe and Tom Noonan and Eric and Madelyn Collins to the club. I hope they enjoy their time with us.

Leigh Marett was selected in the winning Australian team to South Africa, Kim O'Loghlen was selected in the team to England and John Stevens was selected in the team to New Zealand. John Stevens, Scott Morley, John Caske, Don Thompson, Jess Crawford, Bob Crawford, Luke Baker and Dom Whalan were all selected in state teams. These selections show the great depth of talent across all the shooting divisions.

Fixtures – well this year showed we can be beaten in TR with a creditable 2nd in TRA but I am pleased to advise we were winners in all the other TR grades. We also won the composite pennant. Top shots in fixtures were – Bob Crawford TRA, Don Thompson TR RES, John Menzel TRB, Zyden Wiid TRC, Wayne Blair FS, Oliver Ploch FO, John Stevens FTR. Bob Wayne and Oliver were the top shots across all clubs. However these scores cannot be achieved without the coaches. A big thanks to all the coaches who bring these successes to the club.

As the shooting year has not completed at the time of writing club champions will be acknowledged in an addendum.

The annual prize meeting was another success with 107 shooters attending. The format of shooting every range appears to be well received. Winners were Bob Crawford TRA, Rudi Mueller TRB, Zyden Wiid TRC, Andrew McKillop FSA, Peter Noonan FSB, Mark Fairbairn FO, Jim Dunsmore FTR, Doug Benjamin PC, Brett Clarkson PCO. The Affleck Belt was won by Josh Pratt and the Wild Dog Trophy was one by Mel Power FS, Mark Fairbairn FO and Scott Mitchell FTR. Thanks to a large increase in sponsors we were able to offer a larger prize pool and this was well received by the attendees. A huge thanks to our sponsors – Carina Leagues club, Gun Traders Australia, Ahmet Industries, Securcom, Eagle Eyes by Kimbo, Perrin Family, National Medals, Accuracy Matters, Dyad Electrical, R V Custom, Q Store, Wild Dog Custom Rifles, Natives ADF Veterans, Piers Cambridge, Karen Heald, Isaac Brinin, Brett Clarkson, Gordon Craick, David Li, John Caske, George Constantinou and John and Anne Menzel.

Many Natives travel far and wide to attend Kings shoots and country prize meetings and do very well. In the local QRA and NRAA Kings, Natives in the top 10 this year were –

NRAA Presidents – John Caske TRB 2nd, Peter Noonan 5th FSA, David Ward 6th FSA, Oliver Ploch 8th FO

NRAA Kings – Bob Crawford 8th TRA, **John Caske 1st TRB**, David Li 7th FSA, Thomas Kitching 2nd FSB, **John Stevens 1st FTR**

NRAA Grand Agg – **John Caske 1stTRB**, Peter Noonan 9th FSA, Thomas Kitching 2nd FSB, John Stevens 10th FTR

QRA Duncan – Rudi Mueller 9thTRB, Zyden Wiid #rd TRC

QRA Kings – Jess Crawford 4th TRA, Bob Crawford 6th TRA, Mirko Teglas 7th TRA, Josh Pratt 10th TRA, Ian Errington 2nd TRB, Rudi Mueller 5th TRB, Warwick Thomas 2nd TRC, Zyden Wiid 3rd TRC, David Li 8th FSA, Thomas Kitching 2nd FSB, Brett Clarkson 7th FTR

QRA Grand Agg – Josh Pratt 7th TRA, Rudi Mueller 5th TRB, Zyden Wiid 3rd TRC

Congratulations to John Caske and John Stevens on their No 1 badges.

Natives continues to benefit greatly through sponsorship by Carina Leagues Club. This year in addition to the club sponsorship all members who were selected in National and State teams received personal sponsorships towards the costs of their selection. We are very fortunate to be an associated sporting club of Carina Leagues Club. If you are not a member of CLC I urge you to join. If you haven't attended a CLC Sportspersons Awards night I urge you to do so. This years awards night is on the same day as this meeting so winners will be advised in an addendum to the meeting. I can report that this year we have the largest number of members attending at 40 so well done Natives.

Thank you to the committee – Wayne Blair Vice Captain, Wayne Latham Secretary, Webmaster and Stats, Lyle and Cath Vinter Treasurer, Kim O'Loghlen, George Constantinou and Isaac Brinin. Thanks Rob Bell for keeping the yard looking great. And thanks also to Rob Bell and John Caske for their early morning work setting the range up for early Saturday and Thursday shoots. Contrary to popular belief the range isn't set up by the target fairies its set up by these dedicated members for the benefit of all shooters not just the Natives.

Respect each other, be helpful to each other, don't sledge your club mates, make safety a priority and have a great time shooting with your mates.

To borrow a phrase from a previous captain - *the fixtures teams need to get a bit mongrel about them* so go early and go hard!

Good shooting in 2025.

John Menzel - Captain

