



## E-news August 2025

### President's Message

#### Setting ambitious goals for you

For the past few years, we have been setting ambitious goals for us to achieve. As a member-based organisation, our time and energy have always been spent on finding the best ways to provide services and resources like buying ranges for our near 81,000 members.

As we have grown it became apparent that the best way to champion our membership base was to stop using an external services provider based in other states and to build our own membership team here in Queensland. That team not only processes your membership but can assist you with the answers to the firearms licensing requirements and branch activities you have.

Media is an important communication tool for us to reach you and there are now multiple ways we can talk to you, and you can contact us. Our website has been rebuilt, this e-newsletter provides a cheap and effective way to let you know of Association events and of course *The Report* magazine has quickly established itself as the premier hunting and shooting sports magazine in the country. For those who are in to social media we have an [Instagram](#) feed, too.

We have always lobbied state governments to seek opportunities for members and our branches and often to push back on bad legislation, but we now have extended that to federal politics and beyond. Under our Australian Shooters Alliance organisation, we are working in federal politics to ensure the best outcomes for all shooters with a team of lobbyists with an intimate understanding of firearms. Whether that is on the National Firearms Register or appearance laws or anything else we are there for shooters. We are not relying on others to do our work for us nor are we working in the shadows or behind closed doors! And now through our media we can let you know what we are achieving.

It's been a pleasure as the SSAA Queensland president to oversee these goals being fulfilled and I am excited for the future plans of your Association.

On the international sports front, some Queenslanders have been representing us very well in the USA. For the first time, an Australian shooter and our very own [Michael Angel](#) earned a place in the President's Hundred. This is a much-celebrated honour in US pistol shooting and is reserved for the top 100 competitors in the Civilian Marksmanship Program President's Pistol Match.

On the same trip, [Susan Summers](#), our Target Pistol Discipline Chairman, won her grade at an NRA National Championship in Ohio. It goes to show our shooters are up to a high standard and we congratulate them both on their amazing personal results.

Safe shooting.

**Hellen Gill**

SSAA Queensland President

# 2025 SSAA Queensland State, National, Open and Postal Shoot calendar


## State Championships in Queensland

- Big Game Rifle: SSAA Ipswich, August 30-31
- Lever Action Silhouette: SSAA Bundaberg, September 6-7
- Field Rifle 4P/3P: SSAA Fraser Coast, August 15-17
- Lever Action: SSAA Sunshine Coast, September 6-7
- Rifle Silhouette: SSAA Brisbane, October 3-6
- Target Pistol: SSAA Bundaberg, August 2-3
- United Field and Retrieving SE Qld: September 27-28

## Nationals

- Rifle Metallic Silhouette: Monarto Shooting Complex, SA, August 28 – September 2
- Action Match: SSAA Bundaberg, September 19-21
- Combined Services: Windamere Shooting Complex, NSW, September 19-21
- Air Rifle: SSAA Tin Can Bay, September 26-28
- Fly Shoot: SSAA Brisbane, August 30 – September 1
- Long Range Precision: SSAA Luna @ Captains Mountain, August 29-31
- Single Action: Chisholm Trail at Captains Mountain, September 28 – October 5
- BPCR Silhouette: Monarto Shooting Complex, SA, September 3-6

## Postal Shoots

- Muzzleloading: July 1- December 31
- Muzzleloading: Pacific Zone Postal Shoot, July 1 – September 3 



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# SSAA Queensland 2025 Junior State Challenge – Tin Can Bay

By Ian Lumsdaine

The Queensland State Challenge was a two-day event held midyear during the school holidays. This allowed school-aged children to easily attend from all over the state. The Tin Can Bay Branch hosted this shoot for juniors between the ages of 11 to 18, allowing them to compete in a safe, fun environment. Parents, and even some grandparents, were present while the junior shooter was on the range and all had positive things to say about the free event. Breakfast and lunch were also served free of charge for everyone attending.

Competitions were held in Rimfire Field Rifle, Rimfire Rifle Metallic Silhouette and Air Rifle Field Target disciplines at various distances. The opportunity was also taken for some additional coaching on how to sight-in the rifles. This proved very popular and markedly improved the scores of most competitors. The coaching was delivered by State Range Officers John McCarthy, Greg Oliver and Chris Dale, who assisted the Queensland President Helen Gill in organising the entire shoot.

There were prizes for all competitors from the range, including donated gun bags, earmuffs, trigger locks and cleaning kits. The Tin Can Bay RSL Subbranch donated money towards the purchase of junior rifle benchrests and these were much appreciated by those that used them.

Pictured below are visitors Jessica Thompson and her father Chris and also local shooter Ryan Riethmuller. 



## Flying with firearms: My first time

By Joanne Heathcote

As a new firearms owner, I wanted to share what it was like flying solo with my rifle for the first time. Between the strict rules, confusing online forms and all the ‘what-ifs’ at the airport, the whole thing felt a bit daunting.

I’d only had my Wedgetail MPR Mini .223 and Pulsar Thermion 2 DUO DXP50 thermal scope for a few months, so I was still finding my feet with the gear — let alone airport procedures.

What followed was a mix of rookie mistakes, unexpected ease and a few lessons learnt. Click [here](#) to read about Joanne's experience. 

## Competition



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## Venture Hunt Fest – Springwood, Qld

Venture Hunt took place on August 9–10 in Springwood, Queensland and SSAA Queensland was excited to be part of it! It was an amazing two-day event all about hunting, spearing, survival and everything outdoors.

There were hands-on workshops, great deals on gear and the chance to meet some of our favourite personalities from the hunting world.



*The Report* had a stall and gave away nearly 500 copies of our past issues. It was a great opportunity to showcase our Association and sport. One lucky attendee even won a \$200 Venture store voucher. 🎯



Dave Littlejohn, of NIOA, with Neil Schultz, a frequent writer for *The Report*.



## ***The Report***

August's issue of *The Report* is out now. You can catch up on all the great content [here](#). Highlights from this issue include:

- Threat looms – pigs potential super spreaders
- Hunting with sighthounds – like falconry on four legs
- An inside look at Lithgow Arms Factory – An Australian institution

And when you've got time to 'scroll' be sure to visit *The Report* at our [Instagram](#) page. 🎯

