



SSAAQUEENSLAND

E-news May 2026

President's Message

Getting BIGGER

Attentive members will have noticed a new logo recently adopted for SSAA Queensland. A fresh look is more than just a change of colours or design though. It reflects the direction of an organisation that continues to grow in size, strength and ambition. Most importantly, the new branding puts Queensland front and centre.

It comes at a time when SSAA Queensland has never been stronger. Our membership now sits at more than 82,000 members and continues to rise. Every new member adds to the voice of lawful firearm owners, hunters, sporting shooters and outdoor enthusiasts across the state. Growth in numbers also means greater capability to invest back into ranges, events, further hunting opportunities, services and advocacy.

Our media presence has grown too. *The Report* has staked its claim as Australia's largest print circulation hunting, shooting and outdoors magazine, reaching members across Queensland and beyond. It is something we can all be proud of, and it continues to expand alongside the organisation it represents. Also, if you aren't following us on Facebook, now is the time to join.

The Australian Shooters Alliance is another example of growth. As part of the wider SSAA Queensland operation, it has developed into an internationally recognised advocacy body, helping ensure Queensland voices are heard loud and clear.

Our competitive footprint is also expanding. SSAA Queensland now sends multiple teams overseas, and by next year we are planning to send about 12 Queensland teams to international events. These trips provide valuable experience for our shooters, strengthen relationships abroad and help put Queensland firmly on the map.

We are building momentum. Bigger membership. Bigger opportunities. Bigger influence. Bigger ambitions. When you're part of SSAA Queensland, you're part of something bigger.



Jeff Ross 

Following in Dad's footsteps

By Ryan McQuilty



During the final weekend of March, we made the trip from Brisbane to Bundaberg for the Bundaberg Action Open - a match I'd competed in several times before. But this one carried a different weight. This time, my 12-year-old daughter, Addison (pictured), would be stepping onto the range for her very first competition.

As a father, the experience sat somewhere between pride and quiet anxiety. Sharing something so important to me with her felt incredibly special, yet the responsibility of ensuring her safety at every moment never left my mind. It was a balance of excitement and vigilance that only a parent could truly understand.

What unfolded over that weekend reminded me why I've always spoken so highly of the shooting community. From the moment we arrived, Addison was welcomed without hesitation. Competitors, officials, and volunteers alike went out of their way to make her feel comfortable, supported and included. Watching that kindness extended to my daughter was something I'll struggle to fully put into words - it was deeply moving.

Action Pistol is not typically where juniors begin their shooting journey. The discipline demands precision under strict time limits, with courses of fire that challenge even seasoned competitors. Many young shooters start with static formats - air pistol, benchrest rifle or casual target shooting. But Addison has inherited a fair share of determination, and perhaps a touch of stubbornness, from her father. More than anything, she simply wanted to do what Dad does. So, Action Pistol it was.

In preparation, I set up one of my pistols to better suit her smaller hands, fitting it with more appropriate grips, a prone pad for stability and a tube red dot to assist with sight acquisition. At home, we worked with an inert training pistol, running through dry-fire drills - mostly barricade work in the garage - building familiarity and confidence before match day.

The competition itself consists of four distinct events, each presenting its own challenges.

The barricade event is often the most confronting for new shooters. It requires drawing from a holster and firing in separate strings from both sides of a barricade, commonly competitors switch hands with their pistol on one side of the barricade to maximise accuracy. It's a skill that can feel unnatural at first, which is exactly why we dedicated so much time to practising it beforehand.

The plate event is more straightforward in concept: six steel plates, eight timed strings, and increasing distances from 10 to 25 yards. But the pressure builds up - time is tight, and each missed plate carries a heavy 10-point penalty.

Then there's the moving target event, where the target travels 60 feet in just six seconds. It demands timing, focus and composure. In a moment that perfectly captured the spirit of the weekend, a fellow competitor offered Addison the use of his pistol fitted with a mover mount.

This allowed her to focus simply on holding centre target, rather than compensating (leading the target) for movement - one less variable for a first-time competitor to manage.

The practical event proved to be the toughest. It's fast-paced and unforgiving, with the opening string allowing just three seconds to draw and engage two separate targets. As expected, this was where Addison found the greatest challenge. But she never lost sight of the goal we set at the beginning of the day.

I had given her one clear piece of advice: don't chase the clock - focus on doing things properly. Smooth transitions, solid technique and safe handling above all else. Speed would come later. And she delivered.

Her draw, grip, stance, breathing and preparation were consistent throughout the match. More importantly, her safety awareness never wavered. At no point did I nor the range officer need to correct her safety discipline; she maintained trigger control and her muzzle direction was unwavering.

For a first competition, that mattered more than any scorecard.

That weekend wasn't about results. It was about growth, courage and stepping into something new. And as I stood there watching Addison take it all in stride, I realised it was more than just her first match. It was the beginning of something we would now share. 🎯

Gear up for less! Exclusive deals

SSAA Queensland has teamed up with more than two dozen industry partners to offer members special deals on a range of products – from firearm accessories, camping and outdoor gear, knives, clothing, food and beverages and more, with savings from 10% and free inclusions. Head to [Exclusive Deals](#) to see the savings that await.

Keep checking in, as we add new partners on a regular basis. 🎯

GEAR UP FOR LESS

Support those that support you!

We've partnered with trusted brands and industry leaders to bring you exclusive offers, deals & perks!

Save 10%-15% on a wide range of top-tier outdoor and shooting gear.

2026 SSAA Queensland Single Action State Titles

SSAAQ Gladstone, Cactus Canyon, Calliope

By Pearl Starr

In the silence of the early morning, as the first rays of warming sun spilled over the treetops to the circled wagons at Cactus Canyon, boots were being pulled on and hats dusted off. Only the sound of spurs jingling could be heard, with a rhythm that matched the steady draw of breath - measured, patient, ready.



The posse (5 and 6) gathered early. Seventy-nine cowboys and cowgirls keen to make a name for themselves had rolled into town in the days previous, including Sister Sarah Carnegie and Doc Carnegie from as far away as Western Australia, Yowie from New South Wales, and Hoss Rustler from Cairns.

Breaker stood at the edge of the corral, his weathered face unreadable. "All right, folks," he called, his voice carrying over the restless murmur of the cowboys. "Today ain't about who's the fastest draw in the territory. It's about who can keep their head when the dust and smoke blinds 'em and the clock's against 'em."



Daphodil (pictured), one of the youngest of the bunch, felt her heart thump like a war drum. She'd been practicing for months, running drills in the canyon until her hands blistered. But now, standing shoulder to shoulder with legends like Goldilocks and Shining Star, she wondered if it would be enough.

Click [here](#) to read the rest of the story on our website and for more information:

- <https://ssaaqld.org.au>
- <https://endoftrail.org>
- <https://acas.today>

Until we meet again, folks, happy trails. 🎯

No to QHS

A handful of SSAA Queensland members have phoned the state office to report that they mistakenly renewed their membership with SSAA Inc's South Australian company Queensland Hunting and Shooting (QHS) Ltd.

If you received a membership card that looks like the below, you've signed up to the wrong organisation:

WRONG SSAA MEMBERSHIP CARD

If you have **Qld Hunt & Shoot Ltd** on your membership card, you have signed up to the wrong association.

PHONE 02 8805 3900 AND **DEMAND A REFUND**

JOIN SSAA QLD ON 07 3492 9237

If so, ring 02 8500 3900 and **demand** a refund. Then ring **07 3492 9237** to join **SSAA Queensland** with its 82,000 members.

Visit [SSAA Queensland | Facebook](#) for up-to-date information. And for all things related to *The Report*, visit our website (ssaa.org.au) or our [Instagram](#) page. 🎯

Competition




You have to be in it to win it!
Click [here](#) for your chance to win:

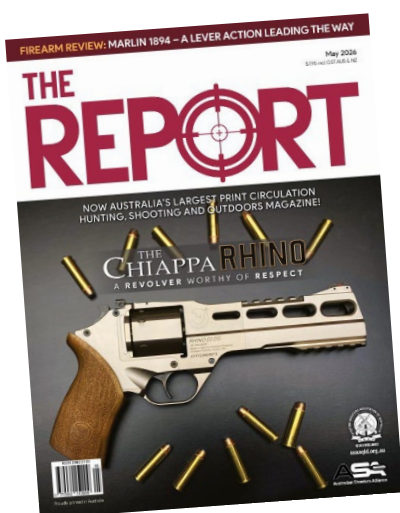
[GME TX6165X Handheld UHF](#)

[The Kogan hat](#)

[JUNIORS ONLY – WIN an exclusive The Report YETI bottle & hat!](#)


Competitions close May 31. 

The Report: May issue



Thanks to Zach Bianchi for helping make the cover of the May issue of *The Report* look so good! Featuring his Chiappa Rhino revolver, he explains why this handgun is so much fun! Inside is just as appealing:

- Review of the Marlin 1894 Lever action
- Review of the ZeroTech 1-4x24 Thrive HD Prism Sight
- Review of ATN's BlazeHunter 635 LRF Thermal Monocular
- A new member recounts her first deer hunt.

And historian Tom Lewis discusses the versatility of the Lewis gun. Grab a chair and click [here](#) to start reading. 



10 LANES INDOOR 25 YARDS PISTOL RANGE

\$170 Membership*

\$120 Annual range pass or pay per visit

Range pass can be purchased in conjunction with the ICPC membership

Shoot packages for unlicensed shooters start at \$45

Rimfire, centrefire revolver and semi-autos available - bookings essential

OPEN HOURS: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 9am - 5pm | Sat, Sun: 10am - 4pm

Wed: Closed for maintenance. Public holidays: Closed


Photo ID, enclosed footwear and sensible clothing all required

*SSAA Qld membership is required to be a member of ICPC

266 Brisbane Street, West Ipswich P: 07 3812 1184 E: icpc@ssaaqld.org.au

Postponed SSAA Queensland Events

The war and subsequent fuel crisis have caused the postponement of a few SSAA Queensland events, including:

- NRA PMS
- Combined Services
- Gallery Rifle
- Long Range Precision. 

2026 Championship Calendar

Action Pistols, Bundaberg, July 10-12
Big Game Rifle, Eidsvold, August 21-23
Cannon, Fraser Coast at Open Rendy, July 4
Field Rifle 4P/3P, Mackay, August 14-16
Fly, Innisfail, July 31 to August 2
Juniors, Captains Mountain, July 4-5
Lever Action, Townsville, September 5-6
Rifle Silhouette, Brisbane, October 3-5
Shotgun, Stewartdale, July 17-19
Target Pistol, Bowen, August 8-9
United Field & Retrieving, Stewartdale, August 27-29
SDC Meeting, Captains Mountain, Nov 14-15
QLD AGM, Captains Mountain, September 12-13
Single Action, Captains Mountain, October 26 