

Sale Pistol Club Inc. Presidents Report 2011

I like to start my report by thanking the committee and membership for the support that they've shown me and the club over the past 12 months. There has been a significant amount of work carried out around the club and the contribution made toward this work by all and sundry has been really pleasing to see. What has been achieved to date is evident and it has all contributed to making our club a better place to be for our current members and of course more attractive to new members. It is a club that we can all be very proud to be a part of.

Over the last 12 months we've seen:

1. A fire reduction risk working bee that has really opened up the area in the vicinity of the club house, making the area a lot safer in the event that we are unfortunate enough to have a fire in the area. It also makes the club look a lot more professional and inviting that it was prior to the clean up.
2. Over 2160 hits on our club webpage, which apart from allowing those involved in the shooting sport to see what we're about, attracted a number of new members to the club. We need to keep in mind that new members grow our club, keep the culture of the club healthy and add to the social fibre of the club.
3. The air pistol range is very close to being ready to use and I expect that we'll be able to commission it within the next couple of months. I see this as an opportunity to capitalise on from a Public Relations perspective and I will ask that we discuss that opportunity during general business.
4. The shooting bays and tables have now been installed in range 3 and (Apart from the lack of flywire) we are now compliant with the ISSF range rules on that range. I'm confident that the works will make range 3 a more appropriate facility for those shooting ISSF disciplines along with improving range safety.
5. The turning targets on range 4 have been repaired and are now capable of being made fully functional. This will give us a lot more flexibility with our calendar and I think we now need consider building a roof at the 25 meter line. (Another one for general business)

Again there is a bit of work going on in the back ground from an administrative perspective. Of particular note is the fact that we've finally encourage our long suffering Secretary/Assistant Secretary to join the communications revolution by setting up an email account. That aside we have a number of undertakings that are worthy of individual mention:

1. The issue with our lost attendance records was not resolved despite a concerted effort and lots of calls. We made a decision to keep it in abeyance a little while back and if the need arises we will raise it at an opportune time.

2. Our liquor licence has realised an improvement in the social aspect of the club. The committee understands that there are some limitations associated with the current licence restrictions and as a result an informal approach has been made to the Director of Liquor Licensing (LLV) to gauge his thoughts in relation to a more flexible approach to our service restrictions. Initial indications are positive and we will need to collectively develop methods to mitigate the risk associated with having parts of the range open whilst alcohol is being served.
3. We are currently exploring the possibility of setting up a stall at the upcoming Sale Show to promote our great sport. Approaches have been made to VAPA, with a view to obtaining the use of the VAPA mobile Air Pistol Range for the show and The Agricultural Society to ascertain their interest and the level of any associated costs. In the event that we are able to set up a stall we will be looking for members to run it and deliver the good message to interested people.

On a broader basis we have continued to provide the pistol shooting public with a number of very well organised and managed State level matches. Both the IPSC State Selection Match and Service Match Open were very well attended with the social aspect enhanced with our post match ability to have a social drink. These matches are very important to the club and provide us with; funds that would otherwise have to come from members pockets, along with opportunities to catch up with old friends and find out what's going on in the broader shooting community. We've booked in this year's IPSC for the weekend of the 12 and 13th of November. The PR Murphy Memorial Shoot wasn't held on the traditional weekend this year for a number of reason and we will be incorporating it in the calendar in the near future, it remains a great opportunity to participate in a nuts and bolts traditional style IPSC shoot, a lot of fun for those of us who have been around long enough to remember them.

The past year has seen our membership remain reasonably steady with a few new members joining the club and our levels of participation continuing to grow. Everyone needs to keep this thought firmly in their minds 'The more the merrier'. To this end I encourage members to convince any of their family or friends that show even the slightest glimmer of interest in our sport to come along and have a go. The very tragic event that unfolded in Norway recently, which is unfortunately not an isolated incident, do not reflect well on our sport. It is incumbent on each and every one of us to promote our sport in a positive light and take opportunity to show those who don't understand our sport that that is just what it is a sport!

In looking to the future I continue to conduct some critical analysis of the way that we run the club. The relaxed manner in which we've traditionally run the club has continued to a degree and serves us well in some areas. There are some risks associated with this and the reality is that we get out what we put in. By way of example I raise the issue of Committee Meetings and News Letters. In my opinion there is still a strong need to conduct regular committee meetings and a news letter is a good forum to keep members in touch with what's happening around the club. The reality is that these things don't happen on their own and shouldn't be left up to one or two members to drive, which is unfortunately what has happened to date. As

a result the news letter has in effect fallen over and the committee meetings have been very infrequent. These matters need to be raised in general business and we need to create a picture of how we think these things should look and then commit to making it happen.

In conclusion I would again like to thank everyone for their support over the last 12 months. I've enjoyed the challenges that have been associated with representing the club and look forward to continuing to support the club and the membership in whatever capacity I can into the future.

Mick McGinn
President Sale Pistol Club Inc