CROWS NEST GOOMBUNGE RIFLE CLUB SWEEPSTAKES AND PRIZE MEETING

10-11 February 2018

Another year and another hot February weekend to endure, but thanks to the ample shade covers provided by the Crows Nest/Highfields Heritage Community Bank, one of our major sponsors, all competitors and visitors at the 500 yard firing mound were protected from the sun.

This year was the first time Silver Mountain Electronic Targets (SMET) have been used for the Prize Shoot and thanks to the Gatton and Goondiwindi Rifle Clubs SMET’s combined with ours, they were a success after overcoming a minor hiccup on one target on Saturday. There are four clubs within the Darling Downs Rifle Association that use SMET’s each week and all have agreed to share them at their respective Prize Shoots. Competitors unfamiliar with the SMET’s did not take long to become familiar with the monitors and scoring process on the tablets. Electronic Targets are obviously becoming the norm these days, and our Butts Officer Max Bidgood and his Marker Team are relieved especially after marking targets in 40 degree heat last year. Sunday’s shoot finished at 3:30pm, which was one hour earlier than previous years, so it’s thumbs up here for ET’s in the future.

The Saturday afternoon Sweepstakes Shoot over 2 x 10 shot matches at 500 yards attracted 57 entries in low to mid 30 degree heat combined with a flukey L-R 1-3 minute breeze.

North Arm shooter Colin Cole mastered the conditions with a perfect score of 100.8 to win TR A Grade from local Ash Bidgood with 99.10. In TR B Grade, another perfect score of 100.8 was posted by Gympie-Kilkivan shooter Bob Crawford from daughter Jessica with 97.6.

FSA was won by Clermont’s Margy Kerlin with 116.7 in a count back from North Arm’s Denis Aaron’s, also with 116.7. FSB was taken out by North Arm’s Bob Bull with 113.5 from Clermont shooter Paul Kerlin with 112.7.

F Open was won by Peter Broom from Beaudesert with 119.9 from Goondiwindi’s Lowell Tillack on 117.10. Our Captain Shawn Birch won FTR with 108.4 from Russell Saxby from Goondiwindi on 99.0.

Saturday night’s meal was spit roasted pork done by our range neighbour and prepared with veggies and salads followed by a variety of sweets thanks to our hard-working ladies in the kitchen.

On Sunday we woke to a sunny day with a prediction of around 35 degrees and little to no wind; the temperature was about right but shooters were confronted with wind strength varying from 1-5 minutes throughout the day. Seventy Entries were received and proceedings got underway at 8:00am at 600 yards.

Range winners were: TR A Grade, Rod Prayle, Maryborough 50.7; TR B Grade, Jessica Crawford, Gympie-Kilkivan 50.4; TR C Grade, Catherine Jones, Beaudesert 45.2; FSA Margy Kerlin, Clermont 59.3; FSB Craig Clark, Gatton Glenore Grove 58.2; FO Julie McEwan, Dalby-Tara 59.3; FTR Franz Knox, Brisbane 60.3.
Moving to the 500 yard mound by 10:15 am, and by then appreciating the shade covers, firing got underway after the bullseye change on the targets. Range winners were: TR A Nick Abrahall, Grafton 50.7; TR B Bob Crawford, Gympie-Kilkivan 50.4; TRC Catherine Jones Beaudesert 41.2; FSA Tim Riddle, North Arm 59.3; FSB Neil Austin, Crows Nest-Goombungee 56.5; FO Peter Broom, Beaudesert 60.3; FTR Les Pedersen, Darling Downs 56.4.

The second 500 yards got underway after a short break during which time our reliable ladies in the Kitchen ensured everyone kept up their sustenance. Range winners: TRA John Gilliland, Crows Nest-Goombungee 50.6; TRB Des Voght, North Arm 49.6; TRC Catherine Jones, Beaudesert 46.1; FSA Norm Cross, Gemfields 58.4; FSB Ron Millingen, Murwillumbah 58.4, FO David Brown, Crows Nest-Goombungee 60.6; FTR Frans Knox, Brisbane 60.2.

Presentations commenced by Captain Shawn Birch presenting long term Member Rick Vlietstra with a Life Membership. Patron Cr Paul Antonio, Mayor, Toowoomba Regional Council, presented the days Aggregates: TR A Grade Colin Cole, North Arm 150.12; TR B Bob Crawford, Gympie-Kilkivan 146.9, TR C Catherine Jones, Beaudesert 132.5; FSA Margy Kerlin, Clermont, 174.9, FSB Neil Austin, Crows Nest-Goombungee 166.9; FO Peter Broom, Beaudesert 177.11; FTR Frans Knox, Brisbane 174.5.

Grand Aggregate Prizes were presented by Aimee Skaines, Manager Heritage Community Bank Crows Nest-Highfields. TR A Colin Cole, North Arm 250.20; TR B Bob Crawford, Gympie-Kilkivan 247.17; FSA Margy Kerlin, Clermont 290.16; FSB Craig Clark, Gatton Glenore Grove 276.14; FO Peter Broom, Beaudesert 275.13; FTR Shawn Birch, Crows Nest-Goombungee 263.6.

The Benchmark Barrel, jointly sponsored by Grenfell Armouring Service and Heritage Community Bank, was won by Anthony Harris, Murwillumbah RC. The complete list of the CNGRC Prize Shoot Scores is available on the NRAA Website.

Dennis Bidgood
Secretary CNG&DRC