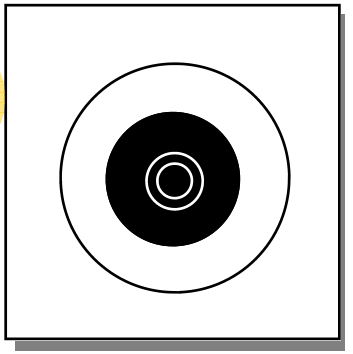


Balaklava Rifle Club



HISTORY OF THE CLUB

Target rifle shooting has been conducted in the district since the late 1800's. In these days it was considered important not only as a sport but as training for the men of the colony and then later the Commonwealth to defend the country if necessary.

The present range at Whitwarta was constructed with one target around 1930. This frame was built by local Balaklava blacksmiths, two more were transferred from the closed range at Kulpara in 1932, the other three target frames making up the present six were added by local members about 1960.

TARGET SHOOTING TODAY

Target shooting our style is known as "full bore" shooting, originally we used military 303's but in 1968 changed to 7.62mm calibre (.308 Winchester) and developed dedicated single shot bolt actioned target rifles and now have no connection with the military. As we like to put it, "we just punch holes in pieces of paper a long way away. These days to accommodate people who needed a lighter recoil 5.56mm or .233 has been included.

We encourage both men and women to join rifle shooting and we also have members with disabilities who could not compete in other sports but can succeed in shooting.

In full bore shooting and its associated disciplines you can aspire to competing in SA State Teams, Australian Rifle Teams – competing all over the world and qualifying for the full bore section of the Commonwealth Games. Members of our local club have succeeded to these levels.

FIREARM SAFETY

In this day and age it worries people about the legalities of owning, using and carrying a firearm. We can assure you that it is quite legal to use a variety of firearms on our range. If you don't have a firearms licence you can shoot under our supervision until we give you the appropriate training to apply for an "AB licence" with a "club use" application, this also gives you the information required to carry and store your firearm legally and to handle it safely both on the range and off. As we understand the concern of others around firearms our safety rules are paramount.

JOINING THE CLUB

Membership for a full 12 months:

- Juniors (under 21) at \$55.00
- Full membership at \$145.00, with discounts for pensioners.



It costs \$3 a Saturday for range fees (cost of targets, flags, maintenance of the range) plus cost of your ammunition, which initially will be supplied through the club or hand loaded by the members at a very reasonable price.

We shoot at the range at Whitwarta most Saturday afternoons and you can find us by referencing the accompanying map or by contacting Dene Freebairn - Captain on 85292195 or Jim Freebairn - Secretary on 88652224 or 0429 096 984.

Rifle Club

