



WINGSHOOTER

Magazine of the SA Wingshooters Association

Vol. 32 No. 3 – September/October 2026



Annual Report

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André van der Westhuizen

Founder of the SA Wingshooters Association

Dr Raoul van der Westhuizen † 1941-2015

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Animal Care Committee

André van der Westhuizen, Dr Alan Kloeck, Etienne Polson, Peter Karsas.

Management Committee

André van der Westhuizen (EXCO), Etienne Polson (EXCO), Johan Opperman (EXCO), Bernard Cilliers (EXCO), Charl Jacobs (EXCO).

Conservation Committee

Anton Jooste, Theuns Oelofse, André van der Westhuizen, Etienne Polson, Johan Opperman, Arnold Slabbert.

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Arnold Slabbert

Scientific Advisers

Dr Slang Viljoen, Tim Snow

Lady Birds convenor

Estene Trollope

Archery Adviser

Cliff Alexander

General Manager and Bookkeeping

Anél van der Westhuizen

071 132 5450. eMail: anel@wingshooters.co.za

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Barbara Bodenstein

External Treasurer

Peter Karsas

Current Shoot Captains

Danie Coetzee, Corrie Jordaan, Calvin Fisher, Bernard Cilliers,

Theuns Oelofse, Dick Broberg, Gary Hagemann, Jacques Naudé

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Notice to Members

In terms of Clause 8 of the Constitution of the SA Wingshooters Association, notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of SA Wingshooters will be held on Friday, 6 November 2026, at 16:15, at the Edgcombe House Conference Centre, 126 Valley Road, Kyalami, Blue Hills, Midrand (see directions on our website – www.wingshooters.org.za – go to "All Downloads" and look under the "Venue Maps" heading).

1. Chairman's Review
2. Report of the Executive Council
3. Consideration of the Accountant's Report and Financial Statements as at 28 February 2026
4. Re-appointment of external accountants
5. Election of members of the National Council

Eight members of the Association will be elected to the National Council by the General Assembly. Messrs Tony Hampson-Tindale, Graeme Milborrow, Roland Nöffke and Anton Jooste are eligible to be re-elected for these positions for the next term.

Every member personally present at the meeting shall be entitled to one vote, whether the vote be taken by show of hands or by ballot. Voting by ballot may be recorded either personally or by proxy. The document appointing a proxy must be in writing and be signed by the principal or his/her duly appointed deputy or, should the principal be a juristic person, be signed by an official or representative authorised by the said juristic person. A person holding a proxy need not be a member of the Association. The holder of a general or special proxy granted by a member, shall have the right to vote if he/she be authorised by the proxy to attend the meetings of the Association and to participate therein whether he/she be a member of the Association or not.

The document appointing a proxy and the power of attorney or other authority, if there is one, by virtue of which it has been signed, or a copy of such a proxy certified by a Notary must be lodged at the registered office of the Association not later than forty-eight (48) hours before the time of the meeting at which the person designated in the document wishes to vote, and in default thereof the document of proxy will not be regarded as valid. No document of proxy shall be valid upon expiry of six months after the date on which it was signed, unless specifically otherwise stated in the proxy and no proxy that could not have been exercised at the original meeting shall be valid at an adjourned meeting.

By order of the Executive Council,

Anél van der Westhuizen

Anél van der Westhuizen
GENERAL MANAGER
30 August 2026, Randburg.

Corporate Offices:
49 Judy Road
Blairgowrie
Randburg
2194.

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Send in your **PSP target shooting** targets for scoring and win...

As you may know, we were the first association in South Africa to launch the Postal Shooting competition where you download the relevant target from our website, shoot it anywhere in the world, and email the scan or photo of your shot target to us. You will then be automatically entered into the annual PSP target shooting



competition. Winners in various divisions, and in open, female and junior categories, are published in the magazine and you receive a certificate.

You can use any handgun or rifle in either centre fire or rimfire calibres and in either bolt action, semi-auto or single shot. Just use the appropriate target – read more on our website:

Download targets here (under the PSP heading): <https://www.wingshooters.org.za/ALL-DOWNLOADS/>

Download the target, go shoot it, and send it back to us! Easy as that! It obviously also counts as a hunting related activity and/or a sport shooting activity, should you be a Dedicated Hunter and/or Dedicated Sport person with us. Email your shot targets to the office. See previous winners here:

<https://www.wingshooters.org.za/Annual-Shooting-Competitions-Top-Shooters/>

– SA Wingshooters

Hull Hydrowad A logical choice

Designed for demanding high-bird shooting, the Hull High Pheasant Extreme Hydrowad combines high-performance shot technology with an innovative, environmentally conscious wad system. The cartridge is engineered to deliver high pellet energy and consistent patterns at extended range, making it particularly suited to challenging driven Guinea-fowl shooting.

At the heart of the cartridge is Hull's Xtreme shot, which is designed to minimise pellet deformation during firing. The result is a more uniform shot pattern, helping maintain pellet density and performance at longer ranges. Bespoke powders provide the required velocity without excessive pressure, while the cartridge is designed to offer a fast, smooth performance with comparatively manageable recoil.

The standout feature, however, is Hull's Hydrowad technology. The wad is 100% plastic-free, non-toxic and biodegradable, meaning it is designed to degrade naturally in the field over time. This offers a significant environmental advantage over conventional plastic wads, whilst retaining many of the performance benefits associated with a full-cup wad.

The full-cup Hydrowad helps maintain pattern integrity, while its compression stage cushions the shot load during firing. It also helps protect the barrel when used with steel shot, and Hull states that it leaves no residue in the barrels during shooting.

Available in several shot weights and sizes, the High Pheasant Extreme Hydrowad offers shooters a compelling combination of range, consistency, smooth performance and reduced environmental impact. It is a modern cartridge designed to meet the demands of serious game shooting without leaving conventional plastic wad waste behind.

In South Africa, Hull is available from Entramarc in Northriding, Randburg. A member-owned company. Contact the office for more information and contact details.



– SA Wingshooters

REFLECTING BACK ON THE PAST HUNTING SEASON... ANY REGRETS



The excitement and focus of the hunt can often make hearing protection feel like an inconvenience, but repeated exposure to gunfire can cause permanent hearing damage and tinnitus. It can also change how you experience everyday life—making conversations harder to follow, reducing your ability to hear subtle sounds in nature, and potentially affecting your quality of life.

The bigger lesson is that protecting your hearing doesn't have to be an inconvenience. CENS digital hearing protection does not take away from the hunting experience but rather adds to it. It is part of being responsible and preserving your ability to enjoy hunting, nature, and the sounds around you for years to come.

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To the next 30 years...

Our 30 year Anniversary function in November last year was a huge success and enjoyed by all.

We constantly increase our services to members, especially with regard to member activities, and this year was no exception. We've hosted more than 100 personally attended official association activities, such as training and shoots for LRSC members, personal interactions for pistol, rifle and shotgun, and many wingshooting days offered as official activity days.

We assisted other organisations, such as SUCO, of which we are a founder member, and made donations towards SUCO members needing to attend the recent CITES CoP 20 that was held in Samarkand, Uzbekistan.

We sold 597 provincial bird hunting licences on behalf of the provincial departments this year, of which Gauteng 194, 141 licences for Free State, Mpumalanga 127, Eastern Cape 53, Western Cape 27 and KZN 45, Limpopo 10.

Here at SA Wingshooters we offer it all. Apart from hunting, which we've offered since 1995, we offer a full line-up of sport shooting to include any type of firearm.

From shotgun shooting through to rifle, handgun and semi-auto rifle shooting sports, including the first ever Long Range rifle shooting and .22 Precision Small-Bore rifle shooting, to clay targets, steel plates or traditional target shooting... we offer all of it. We've expanded our long range shooting ranges and now have ranges in four provinces.

As always, we look forward to a fantastic year ahead, and we plan to host and arrange many sport shooting events and fun days, including shooting training, educational courses and more.

Since last year's report, no less than 221 new members have joined SA Wingshooters! Thank you and welcome to all the new members!

As always, we confirm our dedication, loyalty and service to members and our duty to give them the



best value for money that we possibly can. I wish to thank the volunteer shoot captains for their continued support and assistance throughout the year. Thank you indeed!

Shoot captains ensure a safe, controlled and organised shoot venue and they are there for your convenience, safety, and to offer any assistance members might need on a shoot. This able team was also the backbone of our Mentorship Programme, which introduces newcomers to the wonderful cultural activity of Wingshooting.

On behalf of all members, I extend our appreciation to our National Council for their guidance, the other Executive Committee members Etienne Polson and Johan Opperman, and our finance team of Anél van der Westhuizen (book-keeping) and Barbara Bodenstein, our Financial Controller, under the watchful eye of External Treasurer Peter Karsas. A special thanks to Anél, who does a tremendous job of managing the office. I thank our support staff Zinzi Duma and Lenard Madhlopa for their continued effort and friendly demeanour.

Finally, we thank our IT consultants, risk managers, auditors, sponsors and advertisers for their valued contributions and support.

Here's to the next 30 years!

André van der Westhuizen,
Executive Chairman.

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EU lead ammunition restriction proposals revised **BASC**

At a recent meeting of the EU REACH committee, Member States agreed to drop a ban on lead bullets and introduce a seven-year transition period before lead shot restrictions take effect in the EU and

management measures, this exemption being subject to review after 10 years. The military and police are exempt from any lead ammunition restrictions.

What happens next?

The revised proposals now enter a three-month scrutiny period in the European Parliament and Council. Given the extent of changes already agreed by Member States, it is unlikely that there will be successful objections.

These changes reflect wider EU

2028 and 2029. The current government is unlikely to introduce new legislation to align the EU and GB lead ammunition restrictions.

Non-lead ammunition and cartridges are expected to remain available to the UK market, reducing the risk of supply constraints as domestic demand increases.

– basc.org.uk

Firearm Licence Renewal – Timelines

As responsible and law abiding firearm owners we all know that we have to renew our firearm licences 90 days before expiry thereof and the renewal procedures are not difficult, albeit possibly time consuming.

For the sake of new members, some background to the renewal process might be helpful...

Renewal of firearm licence applications are handled by your local DFO (Designated Firearm Officer) at the police station that serves your neighbourhood. Then it goes to the provincial office where it is processed and a decision is taken whether they will grant the renewal, or possibly refuse it!

The renewal process takes many months, sometimes a year. The reason is that Section 24 of the Firearms Control Act (FCA) 60 of 2000 as amended, states that your firearm licence remains valid, even though it might lapse, if you applied 90 days before the lapsing thereof, as per the FCA requirements.

The SAPS is under no pressure to process renewal applications because of Section 24, and they are mostly overburdened with renewal applications as it is. Once your renewal has been approved, it takes another few months – up to 6 months and sometimes longer – to get a new licence card. This is often due to delays at the government printers who print the licence cards.

Bottom line: If you renewed in time as required by the FCA then you need not worry. You may continue to use and transport your firearm/s until such time as the renewal application/s have been decided.

– SA Wingshooters



Northern Ireland. Following 18 months of negotiation, EU Member States have secured significant amendments to the European Commission's original lead ban proposals.

There will be no restrictions on the use of lead bullets, lead slugs and lead airgun pellets for hunting and outdoor target shooting. The use of lead ammunition can continue at indoor shooting ranges.

For lead shot the transition period has been extended from three to seven years before general restrictions take effect for hunting and outdoor target shooting. Lead shot can continue to be used by muzzle loaders, breech-loading guns, and modern replicas.

There will also be an exemption for continued use of lead shot by active members of recognised federations at outdoor ranges that comply with risk

political priorities, notably defence and security considerations. Most of the key policy recommendations put forward by the European Federation for Shooting and Conservation (FACE) have been reflected in the final proposal, resulting in a more proportionate and practical approach for Europe's hunting community.

A working group of FACE members, chaired by BASC, helped coordinate briefings by national hunting associations to their governments on the negative impact of the proposals.

The EU restrictions on lead ammunition will apply to Northern Ireland (NI) as a result of the NI protocol, which means that NI is subject to EU REACH regulations.

England, Scotland and Wales are subject to UK REACH regulations and lead ammunition restrictions are due to take effect in a phased timetable between



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Entries close 23 November. No refunds after 23rd

LIMITED AVAILABILITY
anel@wingshooters.co.za

Grouse Shooting



Over The Last 150 Years

Grouse Shooting as we know it today has largely been unchanged for about 150 years.

by Mark Osbourne

Article and photographs with
kind permission from
Gunsonpegs.com

Grouse driving first occurred in the later part of the 19th Century, allegedly because the then owner of Snailsden Moor in the Peak District, did not feel up to continuing to walk-up Grouse on a particular days' shooting, so instead stood in an old pit hole and got his two sons to drive the Grouse towards him.

He thought that this was such fine sport that he would not bother walking up thereafter! It was interesting that at the time, letters appeared in *The Field* magazine, condemning such practice as unsporting.

Although we have had changes in guns (hammer to hammerless), cartridges (paper black powder to plastic nitro and shortly to steel/bismuth), the essential form of the two types



of Grouse Shooting, walked up over a wide variety of dogs, but originally pointers or setters, and driven Grouse, with the Guns standing in butts, have largely continued as before.

I doubt that our ancestors would quite understand the necessity for so many vehicles on a Moor as occurs nowadays on a large driven Grouse

Shoot, nor perhaps the quality of the elevenses and lunches (theirs tended to be pretty simple fare), but the fundamentals would still be eminently recognisable by these often whiskered Gentlemen smoking their pipes, wearing wonderfully formal but eminently practical shooting wear. What would be different, is the dramatic

decline in the number of “dogging” Moors in the North of Scotland, which has largely occurred over the last 40/50 years.

Previously, it would be perfectly possible for some of these vast areas of land in Catheness and Sutherland, to shoot seasonal bags of up to 2,000 brace, all walked up. The kennels on



some of those Estates bear witness to the amount of input which went in then to keeping this variety of the sport going.

The other change would be the significant decline (almost eradication) of Grouse Shooting in Wales, which literally was throughout the Principality; from the Berwyns in the North, right down to the head of the South Wales Valleys, Grouse were to be found and were shot, often driven, on most heather Moorland areas.

The few Grouse on Dartmoor and Exmoor have virtually been extinguished as well, but I hear reports of

three generally poor seasons in the North of England. However, last year saw better breeding success on many English Moors and this season is looking nicely positive. Not all Moors will have a shootable surplus in the North of England this season, but many will and hopefully this will be a very good foundation for the coming seasons.

On the surface, therefore not that much has changed over a long period of time. However, underneath and in terms of detailed Moorland Management, much has. Burning which has been the mainstay of

*“The few Grouse on
Dartmoor and
Exmoor have
virtually been
extinguished
as well”*



small walking days from back in the 1970's. It is a fascinating thought that the record Black Grouse shooting day in England, was on Cannock Chase in Staffordshire! There are no Black Game there now.

In the stronghold areas of Grouse Shooting from North Derbyshire to the Scottish Border and from there up to the Highlands, in the main there continues to be a very successfully functioning Moorland Management system, with the resultant shootable surpluses of Grouse in most years.

It has been tough in the last few years, with few Grouse in the Highlands in particular and two or

Habitat Management for at least a couple of hundred years, has been banned over deep peat Moorland and cutting of heather, which was never seen 30 years ago, is now a major management tool.

Time will tell whether this is long-term either as effective or as good for the Moorland habitat as burning, but at least it does give us the ability to control heather and provide young fresh heather on a rotational basis.

The spread of wildfires, so dangerous on large Moorland or heath areas, is of real concern to owners and Keepers, and Government inaction or action in the wrong way, increases

the risk of wildfire in a world which does seem to be getting a whole lot warmer and drier.

However, despite all of this, Moorland Keepers continue to do a fantastic job, managing the habitat, controlling the vermin, producing Grouse to shoot (in most seasons) and our purple heather clad Moors continue to be a source of inspiration for visitors to look at and for people from far and wide to enjoy in different ways, but all dependant on this form of active land management. 🦌

— <https://www.gunsonpegs.com/articles/shooting-talk/s/game-shooting/grouse-shooting-over-the-last-150-years>



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One association

We do it all

SA Wingshooters Association is truly the one association for all shooting disciplines. With us you can do it all. We offer shooting events and venues in all divisions, including shotgun, rifle, handgun, semi-auto rifle, long range target shooting and multi-gun sport shooting...



The SA Wingshooters Association has been accredited by the CFR as a Dedicated Hunting Association, since 2004.

In fact, we are the second oldest accredited association in South Africa.

We have current members, many of whom regularly participate in the various sport shooting disciplines available and thus have a definite need to be able to grant such members the Dedicated Sport Shooting status, in order to enable them to fully participate in their chosen sport.

So, we are both an accredited sport shooting and hunting association, as we have members who want dedicated status, but who do not hunt.

We currently offer the following sport shooting disciplines to our members, either at our own facilities/ranges, or at any range country-wide and internationally:

PSP (Postal Shooting Programme) target shooting for handguns, manual rifles and self-loading rifles. Various target shooting tables/disciplines are offered, which can be practiced at any range world-wide. All our targets are available on our website.

Clay Target Shooting – all members have access to Clay Target

Shooting using shotguns at any accredited clay target range or club (CTSASA, COMPAK, etc.) country-wide.

Long Range Rifle Shooting – we have our own dedicated long range rifle shooting range in Gauteng, where members compete over shooting distances ranging from 100m to 1200m. This range also affords us the opportunity to offer multi-gun sport shooting discipline), starting at 10m for handguns, to 100m and then up to 600m for self-loading rifles, with official division categories for calibres and types of rifles.

Handgun Shooting – we offer handgun shooting, again at our LRSC range, or any other range world-wide via the PSP, on our 17 target steel pistol range with targets from 10m to 100m, and includes a 6-plate duelling tree.

Multi-gun (4-gun, 3-gun & 2-gun) sport shooting – we offer multi gun events, where self-loading rifles, shotgun, handguns and bolt action rifles are used, at our LRSC range and elsewhere.

Membership of the LRSC gives you additional membership of the following sub-clubs:

- The LRSC (Long range shooting club for rifles in both Bolt Action and Self-loading rifle, which are to

distinct separate divisions).

- The .22PSBC (Precision Small-Bore Club)

- The TPS (Tactical Precision Shooting) multi-gun club for 3-gun and 2-gun shooting and competition

- The LR Open Sight club (Open Sight rifle division)

- The LR Handgun and Revolver sub-club – for handgun shooting in various divisions.

The Long Range Shooting Club (LRSC) and the PSP (Postal Shooting Programme) are part of SA Wingshooters and are subject to its constitution, disciplinary codes and rules of ethical conduct.

Lastly, as you know, the SA Wingshooters Association has R20-million liability insurance to cover the Association, with each individual member also having R20-million liability insurance as individual cover, for all shooting-related activities.

We are proud to be an association that offers all forms of shooting and hunting to our members. Thanks for your support!



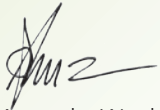


We offer all types of shooting and hunting... as well as coaching!



Executive Council's Approval

The annual financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2026 were approved by the Executive Council on 18 August 2026 and signed:



AA van der Westhuizen

Member: Executive Council & Chairman



JM Opperman

Member: Executive Council



GE Polson

Member: Executive Council



B Cilliers

Member: Executive Council



C Jacobs

Member: Executive Council



A van der Westhuizen

General Manager & Bookkeeping



Barbara Bodenstein

Financial Controller

Report of the Accountants to the members of the SA Wingshooters Association

P. van Zyl CA(SA), RA
No 4 Vuurpyl Street
Tubatse Residential Village
Steelpoort
1133

REPORT OF THE ACCOUNTANT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE S A WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

To the members of S A Wingshooters Association

I have compiled the accompanying financial statements of S A Wingshooters Association based on the information the chairman and financial officer has provided. These financial statements comprise the statement of financial position of S A Wingshooters Association as at 28 February 2026, the statement of income, statement of changes in funds and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

I have performed this compilation engagement in accordance with International Standard on Related Services 4410 (Revised), *Compilation engagements*.

I have applied my expertise in accounting and financial reporting to assist you in the preparation and presentation of these financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards for Small- and Medium-sized Entities (IFRS for SMEs). I have complied with the relevant ethical requirements, including principles of integrity, objectivity, professional competence and due care.

These financial statements and the accuracy and completeness of the information used to compile them are the responsibility of the chairman and the financial officer.

Since a compilation engagement is not an assurance engagement, I am not required to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided to me to compile these financial statements. Accordingly, I do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion on whether these financial statements are prepared in accordance with IFRS for SMEs.



P. van Zyl
Chartered Accountant (S.A.)
Registered Auditor

Pretoria
24 July 2026

Report by the Executive Council

Membership & Services

Membership fees were not increased in the year under review and remained subsidised by the Association. This is a huge direct membership benefit! Currently (at date of this report), the Association has 3036 members, of which 2650 are “current” or “paid up”. There are 47 members who are 30 days in arrears, 52 are 60 days in arrears, 31 are 90 days and 255 who are 91 days plus. This is an increase of 21 members from 3015 of the previous year. A total of 221 new members joined at the date of this report, since the previous annual report. At the time of this report the LRSC has 129 members and produced an income of R207,691. The PSP has 327 current members.

During the year under review, competitions, shoots and licence fees produced an income of R153,913 compared to R90,209 in the previous financial year. The Christmas shoot (and others) is always offered at a loss, as these are direct membership benefits. Advertising income in the Wingshooter magazine amounted to R27,000 – an increase of 21,69% from the previous year. Thank you to the members that support the magazine through advertising. Our group liability insurance product for members and the association, which was a first in South Africa, has been continued successfully. The Association has expanded shooting venues for the annual shooting calendar and even more so for the current year. We offered well in excess of 1000 organised shooting days during the year under review, and we plan to keep on offering venues to members. The LRSC amounted an expenditure of R23,129 at the time of this report, which is again a substantial decrease due to reduced range costs and other savings.

General Review

During the operational year under review, we expanded the Association’s membership services and offerings to include expanded firearm application and motivations services, as well as shooting activities and training. We’ve trained in excess of 150 members and non-members in handgun, rifle and shotgun shooting. We would sincerely like to thank all members for their efforts over the past year to recruit new members. Our cultural heritage activity of hunting, as well as sport shooting and firearms ownership in general, is under constant threat from government and gun-free lobby groups. The weak South African economy is putting many people under financial strain and we try and keep costs to members as low as possible.

We assisted members where we could regarding membership fees and we again thank specific members who financially assisted other members and paid membership fees on their behalf. You are truly exceptional individuals! We have not increased membership fees and the annual membership fees remained the same as the previous year – this is a direct benefit to members.

Bird hunting licences remain available for purchase from our offices for Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Free State, KZN, Eastern & Western Cape. SA Wingshooters Association is part of various forums – from the DFFE National Wildlife Forum to various firearms, hunting and sport shooting forums. In these forums the industry partners up in order to focus on pressing issues that might threaten our ownership of firearms, hunting and shooting. We support and engage in joint conservation projects in Southern Africa, in support of bird conservation of game birds and waterfowl, and birds in general.

We’re proud to be part of the SUCo-SA (Sustainable Utilisation Coalition of South Africa) – of which we are a founding member – along with other hunting and wildlife associations and bodies, such as NHSA, CHASA, SAPA, WRSA, PROA, TGA and others. Internationally, our National Associate membership of the British Association for Shooting and Conservation (BASC) continues to add value to the organisation and to our members. We support the Wildlife Poisoning Prevention and Conflict Resolution organisation, the aim of which is to curb, investigate and resolve wildlife poisoning incidents and conflicts and provide training across Africa to raise awareness of poisoning of fauna and flora. The availability of editorial material from the BASC publications, Guns-on-Pegs and Project Upland for use in our publications is gratefully acknowledged and appreciated.

Financial Results

We are a government registered non-profit organisation and SARS Public Benefit Organisation. The income from membership subscriptions amounted to R2,969,617 during the year, a slight increase of 3,49% over the previous year. The total expenditure decreased by 0,88% (R30,599), to R3,439,457 to produce a surplus of R663,905. This is due to a substantial donation received from one of our members.

This was again achieved thanks to the strong financial discipline of our Association’s management, despite climbing inflation, expanded membership services and benefits, such as offering official shoots below cost and free of association charges, our on-line firearm licence renewal notification and dedicated activity reporting on-line portal, shotgun, rifle and handgun shooting training, etc.

The management fees of our administrators, the Advisory Bureau for Development (Pty) Ltd, amounted to R2,261,894 with no increase. Our Funds increased to R4,593,384 which includes the Legal Action Fund of R77,815, the Publishing Revolving Fund of R40,000 and the Youth Development Fund of R89,600.



By order of the Executive Council
André van der Westhuizen
Executive Chairman

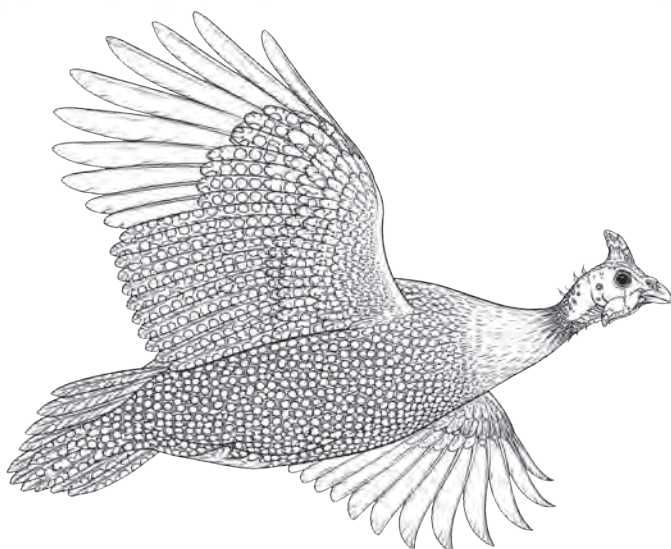
Statement of Financial Position

SA WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

28 FEBRUARY 2026

	Notes	2026 R	2025 R
ASSETS			
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	2	750 240	535
CURRENT ASSETS			
Accounts receivable		47 544	20 745
Cash and cash equivalents	3,2	3 850 520	3 987 138
TOTAL ASSETS		4 648 304	4 008 418
FUNDS AND LIABILITIES			
FUNDS			
		4 593 384	3 929 480
CURRENT LIABILITY			
Accounts payable		54 920	78 938
TOTAL FUNDS AND LIABILITIES		4 648 304	4 008 418



Statement of Income

SA WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF INCOME

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2026

	Note	2026 R	2025 R
INCOME		4 103 362	3 592 364
Advertising		27 000	34 478
Competitions, shoots and licences		153 913	90 209
Donations received - legal action fund		1 677	2 954
Donations received - other		275 226	-
Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment		110 216	-
Income from auction and sale of promotional items		28 275	11 627
Interest received		279 176	300 345
Long range shooting program		207 691	224 613
Membership fees		2 969 617	2 869 521
Postal shooting program		4 670	3 339
Training material and book sales		45 901	55 278
EXPENDITURE		3 439 457	3 470 056
Accounting fees		51 120	51 000
Advertising		21 616	4 596
Bank charges		8 078	8 277
BASC expenses and royalties		2 272	2 271
Cleaning		-	10 100
Competitions, shoots and licences		218 610	181 407
Computer expenses		73 068	84 092
Credit card commission		13 301	12 413
Depreciation	2	41 453	5 097
Donations		20 000	16 040
Entertainment and meetings		30 846	27 733
Huntex expenses		21 384	26 452
Insurance		107 457	107 704
Legal fees		2 288	-
Long range shooting program expenses		23 129	41 580
Management fees - administration services		1 496 714	1 496 714
Management fees - finance and bookkeeping		765 180	765 180
Motor vehicle expenses		129 022	152 266
Printing and stationery		22 492	33 049
Promotional items and prizes		870	78 763
Rent, electricity and water		78 000	78 000
Repairs and maintenance		-	2 250
Replacements		2 780	1 521
Secretarial and bookkeeping services		56 300	54 100
Security expenses		11 864	8 937
Staff refreshments		6 842	3 142
Subscriptions and membership		20 115	21 961
Telephone, courier, fax and postage		97 008	107 340
Travelling and accommodation		12 737	6 858
Uniforms		4 751	-
Wages		66 000	48 900
Website		34 160	32 313
Surplus of income over expenditure		663 905	122 308

Statement of Changes in Funds

SA WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUNDS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2026

	General funds R	Youth development fund R	Publishing revolving fund R	Legal action fund R	Total R
Balance at 1 March 2024	3 604 388	89 600	40 000	73 184	3 807 172
Net surplus for the prior year	122 307				122 307
Transfer to legal action fund	(2 954)			2 954	
Balance at 28 February 2025	3 723 741	89 600	40 000	76 138	3 929 479
Net surplus for the current year	663 905				663 905
Transfer to legal action fund	(1 677)			1 677	
Balance at 28 February 2026	4 385 969	89 600	40 000	77 815	4 593 384

Statement of Cash Flows

SA WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2026

	Notes	2026 R	2025 R
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated by the activities of the association	3,1	265 149	(157 556)
Interest received		279 176	300 345
		<u>544 325</u>	<u>142 789</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	2	(791 159)	-
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment		110 216	-
		<u>(680 943)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in cash and cash equivalents		<u>(136 618)</u>	<u>142 789</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		<u>3 987 138</u>	<u>3 844 349</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	3,2	<u>3 850 520</u>	<u>3 987 138</u>

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements

SA WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

28 FEBRUARY 2026

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Presentation of Annual Financial Statements

The annual financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities. The annual financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, except for certain financial instruments carried at fair value as stated in note 1.3 below, and incorporate the principal accounting policies set out below. All amounts are presented in South African Rands.

1.2 Depreciation of fixed assets

Property, plant and equipment are held for administration purposes and are expected to be used during more than one financial period.

Property, plant and equipment are carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses.

Property, plant and equipment are depreciated using the straight line method at rates that will reduce carrying estimated residual values over the anticipated useful lives of the assets. The useful lives are:

Computer equipment	4 years
Computer software	2 years
Equipment	5 years
Furniture and fittings	6 years
Motor vehicles	5 years
Office equipment	6 years

1.3 Financial instruments

Initial measurement

Financial instruments are initially measured at the transaction price. This includes transaction costs, except for financial instruments which are measured at fair value through profit and loss.

Financial instruments at amortised cost

Debt instruments, as defined in the standard, are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. Debt instruments which are classified as current assets or current liabilities are measured at the undiscounted amount of cash expected to be received or paid, unless the arrangement effectively constitutes a financing transaction. These include accounts receivable and accounts payable.

At the end of each reporting date, the carrying amounts of assets held in this category are reviewed to determine whether there is any objective evidence of impairment. If so, an impairment loss is recognised.

Financial instruments at fair value

Cash and cash equivalents are measured at fair value.

1.4 Membership fees

Membership fees comprises subscriptions and entry fees received excluding value added tax. Subscriptions received is accounted for in the financial year in which it is received.

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements (continued)

SA WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

28 FEBRUARY 2026

2 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	<u>2026</u>			<u>2025</u>		
	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Accumulated depreciation</u>	<u>Carrying Amount</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Accumulated depreciation</u>	<u>Carrying Amount</u>
	R	R	R	R	R	R
Owned assets						
Computer equipment	410 841	410 795	46	410 841	410 795	46
Computer software	149 316	149 294	22	149 316	149 294	22
Equipment	60 740	16 020	44 720	121 840	121 838	2
Furniture and fittings	12 529	12 521	8	12 529	12 521	8
Motor vehicles	737 219	31 912	705 307	220 270	220 270	-
Office equipment	44 735	44 598	137	44 735	44 278	457
Total	1 415 380	665 140	750 240	959 531	958 996	535

The carrying amount are reconciled as follows:

	<u>Carrying amount at the beginning of the year</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Disposals</u>	<u>Depreciation</u>	<u>Carrying amount at year end</u>
	R	R	R	R	R
Owned assets					
Computer equipment	46	-	-	-	46
Computer software	22	-	-	-	22
Equipment	2	53 940	1	9 221	44 720
Furniture and fittings	8	-	-	-	8
Motor vehicles	-	737 219	-	31 912	705 307
Office equipment	457	-	-	320	137
	535	791 159	1	41 453	750 240



Notes to the Annual Financial Statements (continued)

SA WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

28 FEBRUARY 2026

	2026 R	2025 R
3 NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT		
3.1 Cash generated by operations		
Surplus of income over expenditure	663 905	122 308
Adjustment for interest separately disclosed in the cash flow statement	279 176	300 345
	384 729	(178 037)
Adjustment for non cash flow item:		
Depreciation	41 453	5 097
Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment	(110 216)	-
	315 966	(172 940)
Increase (Decrease) in working capital	(50 817)	15 384
Decrease (Increase) in accounts payable	(24 018)	17 589
Increase in accounts receivable	(26 799)	(2 205)
	<u>265 149</u>	<u>(157 556)</u>
3.2 Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash and cash equivalents included in the cash flow statement comprise the following:		
Cash at bank	236 247	399 860
Cash on hand	716	2 897
Funds on call	3 613 557	3 584 381
	<u>3 850 520</u>	<u>3 987 138</u>

4 TAXATION

Taxation has not been provided as the association is recognised as a Public Benefit Organisation in terms of section 30 of the Income Tax Act.

5 GOING CONCERN

The annual financial statements have been prepared on the basis of accounting policies applicable to a going concern. This basis presumes that funds will be available to finance future operations and that the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities, contingent obligations and commitments will occur in the ordinary course of business.

6 SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

In the opinion of the Executive Council there have been no events subsequent to the end of the reporting period which have not been accounted for in the financial statements and which would materially affect the financial results of the association.

Members in the field...



Gary Hagemann & Corrie Jordaan



*Julie Lakin at the
Lady Bird Club shoot near Leandra*



*Above: Estene Trollope at the
Leandra shoot
Left: Jonathan Miller at Leandra
Far left:
Jordan and Rick De Caris at
Singita*





Shawn Kennard's Drahthaar
"Kimber" with a speedy
retrieve



George and Brad Smith at the Rüens shoot, Western Cape.



Above: Gawie Combrinck and
Gert de Wet at Singita
Below left: Grant Cornish-Bowden at
the Leandra shoot
Below: Corrie Jordaan, Luke Strugnell,
Shawn Kennard, Richard Curtis and
Bernard Cilliers at the Rustenburg



LRSC MEMBERS *sending it!*



Left: Danie Keet thoroughly enjoying the day

Below: Shaun Ellithorne & Tony Ernst scheming... as always!

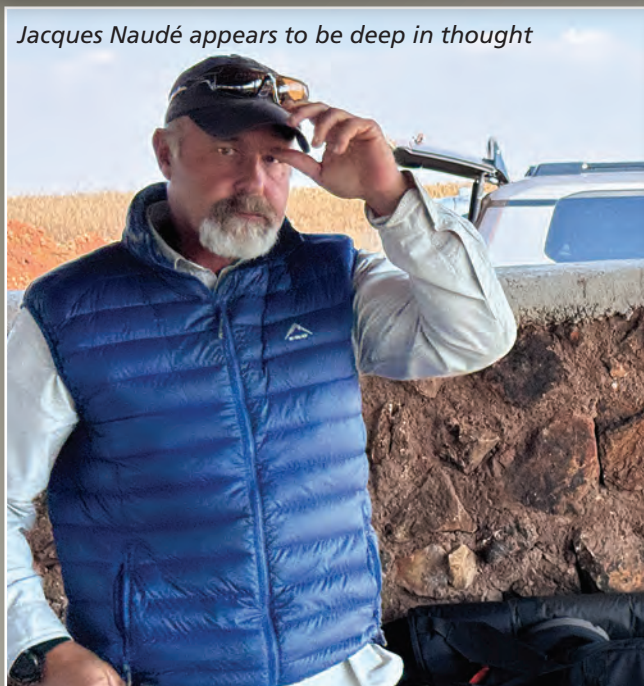


We always have a few challenging targets at every match. Life size Jackal and small (scaled) warthog figure at 505m



Junior Emmie Jacobs smashed the .223 calibre division!

Jacques Naudé appears to be deep in thought



Casper van Wyk enjoying a private training course with .338 Sherman Short





Above: Next squad up! From closest: Cliff Alexander, Christiaan de la Rey, Vere Elliott, Warwick Yardley & Johan Maree
Left: Bernard Cilliers and Jacques Mey sending it in the 6mm calibre division.



We have various benches for those who's disposition is such that they cannot go prone. From left: Noel Gibson, Kristina Gallow & Hulme Scholes



Greg Tearnan (left) and Christo van Eeden participating in the F-SLR .223 calibre division.

How Dog Shows Don't HELP HUNTING DOG BREEDERS OBTAIN “PERFECTION OF FORM”

What if dog shows didn't reward beauty and instead objectively evaluated the functional abilities of dogs using modern instruments and scientific methods?

Written by Dr Craig Koshyk

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the local economy and offer an excellent opportunity for a fun family outing. I've attended many dog shows as a spectator (I have a soft spot for Italian Greyhounds and Irish Water Spaniels), and I enjoyed them. I even owned a show champion, thanks to my friend Shelly, who showed him. So, I don't have a bone to pick with dog shows – per se. However, as a hunter, owner of hunting dogs, and someone who has spent over 30 years studying hunting dogs, I have concluded that dog shows cannot help breeders “obtain perfection of form” when it comes to hunting dogs.

The reason is simple. Dog shows are not designed to help breeders breed good hunting dogs. They are designed to help breeders obtain beautiful animals. Some canine organisations openly admit it. In France, dog shows are called *Concours de beauté* (beauty contests), and in Italy, they are called *Esposizioni di bellezza* (beauty shows). A dog can earn a *champion de beauté* or *campione di bellezza* title. Both terms mean “Beauty Champion.”

Instead of measuring beauty, wouldn't it be more useful for breeders if a show system measuring the physical capabilities of dogs existed?

Defining “Perfection of Form”

In a sense, dog shows can help breeders “obtain near perfection of

“In all other forms of livestock, the breeder, having attained an ideal, an animal which perfectly fits its purpose, is content. He knows the best when he sees it, and is then content if he can breed to it...So the Derby winner of today looks pretty much the same as the Derby winner of forty years ago. The dog-breeder has not stopped because ... he has not attained an ideal and

never will. He cannot do so because dogs are fashionable and are subject to the dictates of fashion.” – Brian Vesey-Fitzgerald, The Sphere. August 2, 1958.

For millions of people around the world, dog shows are a fun, challenging, and educational activity. Wherever they are held, they stimulate

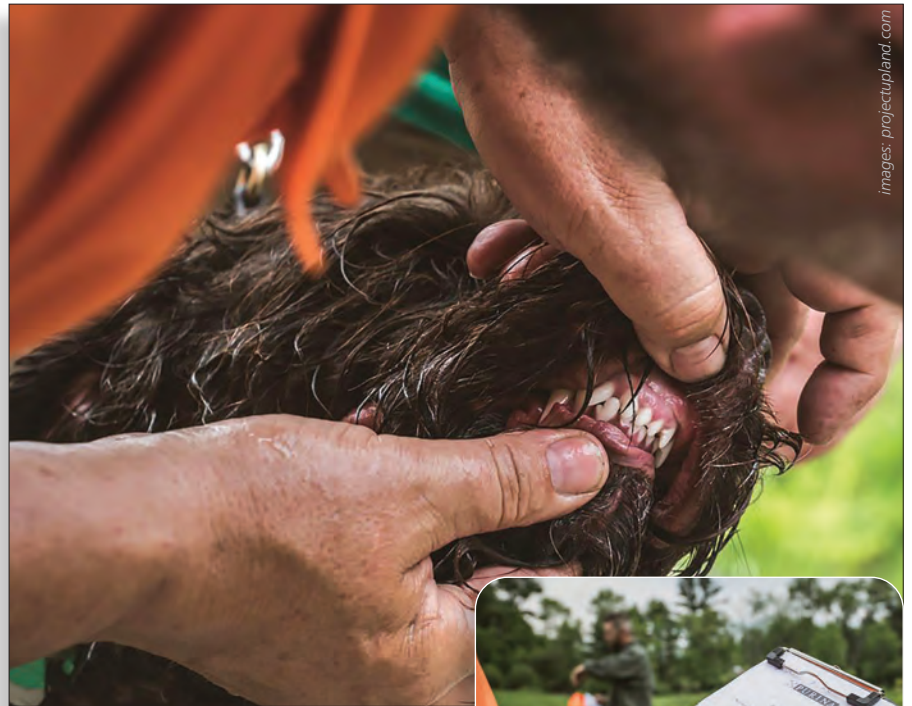
form” if their goal is to produce perfectly beautiful animals. And they can help people breed dogs that are “fit for purpose” if that purpose is beauty. So go to a dog show if you want to see some real canine eye-candy. You will see a lot of drop-dead gorgeous dogs. That’s why I go to shows. I like looking at good-looking dogs. And I’m okay with an experienced judge declaring one particular dog the best-looking of them all. After all, beauty is in the eye of the beholder, right?

But here’s the thing: when Edward Laverack, the father of the English Setter, wrote about “perfection of form,” he was not referring to a dog’s subjective beauty—although I am sure he appreciated a good-looking dog. For Laverack and every other breeder of hunting dogs at the time, the expression “perfection of form” referred to the physical characteristics of a dog’s anatomy that influenced its ability to perform in the field.

Eyeballing Versus Measuring

Many show folks reading this are surely saying, “But that is what we do in the show ring! We evaluate a dog’s anatomy to ensure it is built correctly.” And sure, you can evaluate certain aspects of a dog’s anatomy in a show ring. Count the legs; there should be four. Count the eyes and ears. You want to see two of each. Check the nose and tail. There should be one of each at opposite ends of the dog. One can eyeball things like height, weight, agulation, reach, and other aspects. But why not measure them with modern tools? We now have instruments that can measure almost anything instantly, even at a distance.

Yet we still judge some of a dog’s most important physical characteristics with our eyes. If you ask any magician or professional show handler, human eyes are notoriously easy to fool. If dog shows were truly about ensuring that a dog has “perfection of form” as it applies to the field, then breed standards would include highly detailed descriptions of all the essential factors that play a role in the dog’s performance. Then, judges could use the most pertinent data collected by various instruments aimed at the dog



images: projectupland.com

as it stood still and moved around the ring to see how well it measured up.

Instead, we have a single set of eyeballs looking at a dog for a minute or two, and a single set of hands going over the dog for just a few seconds. And that may be why many standards for gundogs contain phrases like “conformation indicating power, endurance and agility” or “with appearance of strength, endurance, and speed.” They are tacit admissions that show-ring results are based on feelings, not facts. After all, how can we measure things like an “aristocratic” or “noble” appearance? What tool can we use to measure “soft expression of a bird dog” or the “look of intelligence and animation?” Imagine if breed standards included precise measurement ranges instead of subjective descriptors.

Flaws and Loopholes in Existing Breed Standards

Some standards also attempt to justify the usefulness of a particular feature. The American Kennel Club (AKC) standard for the Brittany contains some real gems, such as “lips dry, so that feathers will not stick.” Ignoring the fact that the word “dry” in dog standards usually refers to skin without wrinkles or looseness and has



nothing to do with moisture content, as any hunter knows, feathers tend to stick to the tongue and inside the mouth far more than on the lips. So should we breed gundogs with “dry” tongues and mouths?

Another classic is “Nose-Nostrils well open to permit deep breathing of air and adequate scenting.” Who needs to be reminded that a gun dog needs to breathe?

And don’t get me started on how “Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.” I am sure it is there because a judge can’t just juggle the boys for a second or two and declare them normal. All he or she can say is that they are apparently normal.

Language like this leaves a giant loophole for dishonest folks to jump through. For example, problems in the testicular region can be solved by Neuticles, or testicular implants for dogs. Writing for *The Guardian*, Julia Stuart reported that:

One Airedale breeder was famously caught out for having a false testicle inserted into his dog’s scrotum. One

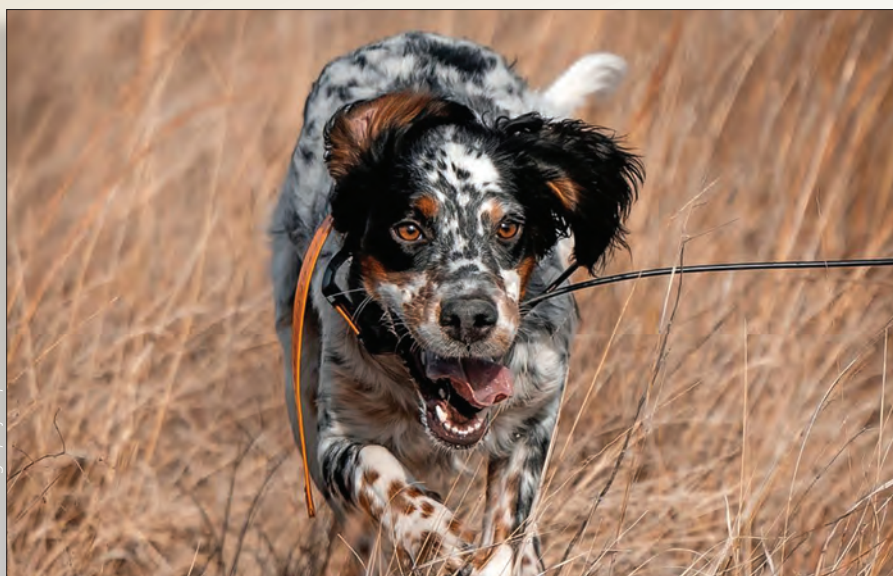


image: projectupland.com

and forgotten. And sure, I understand we will never come up with an objective test for beauty, but we can certainly design a system that can evaluate Gundogs as athletes.

What If We Measured Hunting Dogs Like Athletes?

Why not establish a “show” system that mirrors North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association or AKC hunt tests? Instead of a competitive event to select a winner, all dogs would be judged against a standard and receive a score. The evaluations would be conducted by trained judges using instruments to measure various performance aspects of each dog.

When the test is over, the owner would receive a score sheet showing their dog’s results in all the categories that matter in the field. Instead of telling everyone your dog got a four in the duck search and a four in pointing, you’d say, “My dog got a four out of four for VO2 max and perfect scores in locomotion, strength, and endurance.”

If you are a breeder, you could then use those results to select dogs with good scores in hunt tests and in “fitness” tests conducted by judges using facts, not feelings. Need more speed in your line? Look for dogs with high scores in speed, locomotion, and gait. Need tougher feet or a harsher coat? Look for dogs with high scores in those categories. Whatever information you seek as a breeder would be available in the form of objective data, not just the gut feelings of a judge looking for the “appearance of strength and endurance.”

Even if full-scale implementation is ambitious, incorporating a few measurable performance traits into evaluations would already be a step forward. That, and wouldn’t it be fascinating?

— With kind permission from: https://projectupland.com/dogs/how-dogs-shows-dont-help-hunting-dog-breeders-obtain-perfection-of-form/?utm_source=Klaviyo&utm_medium=email&_kx=fUSZQjgZqvSYnuuxNSS2OPOnTvldmtPQhgaaKJ-WMWz29fqJhAU3f6Y6qWTLzEu.XSVPXG

of the requirements for a male dog being shown is that both its testicles have descended.

Unfortunately for the owner, when the dog was being shown the other testicle made an appearance, resulting in one too many. The man was banned from showing and judging for 10 years.

If the boys have to have boys, apparently normal or not, what about females? Don’t they need to have two apparently normal ovaries? Oh, right. We can’t eyeball those. But we can certainly prove it with an ultrasound reading.

While amusing, these loopholes highlight how dog shows reward appearance, not the field-worthy soundness hunters and breeders require.

The Need For A System That Objectively Evaluates Hunting Dogs

If purebred dog breeding were truly about improving dog breeds, the Westminster Dog Show would be a gathering of veterinarians, statisticians, and biologists dressed in whatever work wear is appropriate for their profession, putting each dog through a series of physical, medical, genetic, and performance-based tests.

Since pointing dogs are generally expected to search at a gallop, they would be judged while running at a gallop, not at a trot. And since they are expected to run at a gallop for

long periods, they would undergo a VO2 max test to measure the maximum amount of oxygen their body can absorb and use during exercise. The higher the score, the better.

The results of such evaluations would be fascinating, but they may tell people what they don’t want to hear about their breed or line. Take the famous shoulder angle idea, for example. It had long been held as gospel that a dog’s ideal layback angle for a dog’s shoulder was 45 degrees. McDowell Lyon supported the idea in his 1950 book *The Dog in Action*. Max von Stephanitz, a famous breeder, judge, and author, also promoted the idea.

However, when Rachael Page Elliott took the time to study the idea and take detailed measurements of dogs standing still and in motion, she found that 45 degrees was way off. After conducting a study at the Harvard University Museum of Comparative Zoology using specialized x-ray and fluoroscopic equipment designed by Dr. Farish Jenkins, she concluded that “the blade sets about 30 degrees off a vertical plane—measured up the scapular ridge—is within normal limits for the average well-built dog.”

Since then, other studies have been done on canine anatomy and locomotion aspects, often revealing that what we feel is right about dog conformation conflicts with the facts. But those studies are usually ignored

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Use the right Shot Size



Selecting the right shotgun cartridge is a balance between pellet energy, pattern density and range...

by André van der Westhuizen

Photographs
André van der Westhuizen

For larger, tougher quarry such as guinea-fowl, Egyptian geese and spur-wing geese, using a larger pellet and an appropriate shot load can provide considerably more striking energy and penetration than smaller shot.

However, the heaviest cartridge is not automatically the most effective: the load must produce a sufficiently dense, even pattern through the particular gun and choke.

Why larger shot can be more effective

Shot size numbers can be confusing because the smaller the number, the larger the pellet. In British lead shot, No. 5 is approximately 3.08 mm in diameter, while No. 4 is

approximately 3.30 mm. A No. 4 pellet, therefore, contains substantially more mass than a No. 5 pellet. A typical 28g load contains around 170 No. 5 pellets compared with approximately 135 No. 4 pellets.

The principal advantage of the larger pellet is retained energy. As a pellet travels through the air, it rapidly loses velocity. A larger pellet, because it has greater mass relative to its frontal area, generally retains its velocity and energy better. This becomes increasingly important as range increases or when shooting a strongly built, heavily feathered bird.

The objective is not simply to put

less dense pattern than 28g of No. 5.

This is fundamental to successful shotgun shooting: energy alone does not produce a clean kill – the pattern must also put enough pellets into the vital area of the bird.

A well-patterned No. 5 cartridge can therefore outperform a poorly patterned No. 4 cartridge. The ideal combination is sufficient pellet energy together with enough pellets distributed evenly across the target. Shooting authorities commonly describe shot selection as a compromise between pattern density and penetration.

This is also why pattern testing is

A heavier load is therefore not automatically “more powerful”. Heavy payloads can sometimes produce lower velocities, greater recoil and poorer patterns if the combination is not suited to the gun.

For larger shot such as No. 4, a 32g - 36g cartridge can offer an attractive compromise: considerably more individual pellet energy than smaller shot while providing enough pellets to maintain a useful pattern. Specialist high-bird cartridges, for example, are available with No. 4 in 32g, 34g and 36g loads.

Guineafowl are fast, strong-flying birds with dense plumage, and they



pellets into the bird. Pellets must penetrate deeply enough to reach vital organs and cause rapid incapacitation. Larger shot gives the individual pellet greater striking energy and penetration, making it more forgiving when the quarry is larger or when the shot is taken at the upper end of the cartridge's effective range.

This is where No. 4 can have an advantage over No. 5 for guinea-fowl. The individual No. 4 pellet carries more energy, giving it greater ability to penetrate dense plumage and reach vital structures.

There is, however, an important trade-off. More energy versus pattern density. Because No. 4 pellets are larger, there are fewer of them in a cartridge of the same weight. That means a 28g load of No. 4 produces a

so important. A cartridge that performs superbly in one shotgun and choke may produce disappointing results in another.

Comparing loads

Shot weight is another important consideration. Increasing the payload from 28g towards 38g does not make every individual pellet more powerful. Instead, it puts more pellets into the cartridge, potentially increasing the density and length of the effective shot cloud.

For example, moving from a 28g to a 36g to 38g load of the same shot size gives the pattern more pellets with which to cover the bird. This can be particularly useful with larger shot, where pellet numbers are already relatively low.

can present challenging crossing and high targets.

For normal ranges, No. 5 is perfectly capable when the pattern is good, but No. 4 can provide a useful increase in individual pellet energy and penetration, especially on driven Guineafowl shoots.

For this reason, a well-patterned 32g - 36g load of No. 4 is an attractive choice for demanding guineafowl shooting, particularly where birds are at range. The larger pellet can retain useful energy better than smaller shot, while the heavier payload helps compensate for the lower pellet count.

The important qualification is “well-patterned”. If a 28g No. 5 produces a beautifully even pattern while a 36g No. 4 produces holes large enough for a bird to pass through,



the lighter cartridge is clearly the better choice.

Egyptian geese and particularly spur-wing geese are considerably larger and more robust quarry than guinea-fowl. They demand greater penetration and retained pellet energy.

For these birds, No. 1, No. 2 or No. 3 shot is generally a more appropriate choice than No. 4 and smaller when range and quarry size demand it. The larger pellets carry substantially more energy, reducing the risk of marginal penetration.

The penalty is pellet count. A cartridge containing No. 2, for example, contains far fewer pellets than one containing No. 5 or No. 6. Consequently, the gun, choke, cartridge and range become even more important.

Larger shot is often best paired with a choke that keeps the pattern sufficiently dense without creating excessive centralisation.

For geese, a 32g - 38g load of

***“There is no substitute
for putting the chosen
cartridge through the
actual shotgun.
Patterning at
realistic hunting
ranges allows the
shooter to see how many
pellets reach the in-
tended target area and
whether there are
significant gaps”***

No. 1, No. 2 or No. 3 can therefore provide an effective combination of pellet energy and adequate pattern density, subject to the gun's chambering, choke and the ammunition manufacturer's recommendations.

There is no substitute for putting the chosen cartridge through the actual shotgun. Patterning at realistic hunting ranges allows the shooter to see how many pellets reach the intended target area and whether there are significant gaps.

A useful rule is to judge the pattern rather than simply trusting the cartridge label. Larger shot gives more energy per pellet, but fewer pellets; smaller shot gives more pellets, but each carries less energy.

The optimum load is the one that delivers enough penetration and enough evenly distributed pellets at the range at which the quarry will actually be taken.

For larger shot sizes, this becomes particularly important. A 36 g No. 4 cartridge may contain substantially fewer pellets than a 32g No. 5 load, but those No. 4 pellets can deliver considerably greater individual striking energy. Whether that produces a better result depends on how the two cartridges pattern in the gun.

For guinea-fowl, moving from No. 5 to No. 4 can provide a worthwhile increase in pellet energy and penetration, particularly with 32g - 36g loads and at longer, but still sensible, ranges.

For Egyptian geese and spur-wing geese, stepping further up to No. 1, No. 2 or No. 3 provides the greater pellet mass and retained energy appropriate to larger quarry. Loads in the 32g to 38g range can provide additional pattern density, provided the gun and choke produce a satisfactory pattern.

Ultimately, the best cartridge is not necessarily the heaviest or the one containing the largest pellets. It is the cartridge that combines adequate pellet energy, a dense and even pattern, manageable recoil and a realistic shooting range.

Pattern the combination, know its effective range, and select the load that consistently delivers clean, humane kills.





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Ask The Instructor:

The causes of Flinching

by Don Currie

Question: I'm a C-class shooter and shoot regularly. Periodically, I'll flinch on a shot and have no idea why. While I can't detect a pattern, it tends to happen more often on the first target of a pair. Do you know of any research on why we flinch, and do you have any suggestions on ways to eliminate it?

Answer: There is no mistaking a flinch – that momentary “hiccup” as you are about to pull the trigger of your shotgun. The most commonly held misconception is that a flinch is an anticipation of recoil caused by shooting heavy loads. It has been my experience that this is rarely the cause. Instead, it is caused by a sudden interruption of the acute visual connection between the target and the dominant eye. When this happens, your brain experiences a moment of visual confusion, causing the flinch. The cause of this visual disconnection is most often one of the following:

1. Improper gun fit: For a shooter with a high cheekbone or smaller facial structure, the dominant eye may wind up below the rib of the shotgun when the shotgun is fully mounted and the shot is executed. With this shooter, a higher comb



is the solution. Have an adjustable comb installed or use a comb riser product like the Beartooth Comb Riser.

2. Spoiling the line: When the movement of your gun to the break point is such that the muzzle gets between your eye and the target, you inadvertently block your visual connection with the target as you execute the shot. This most often happens on targets that are descending at the break point. It also happens when a shooter is not committed to a break point and “rides the target”.

3. Gun mount: I have often worked with shooters who press their head into

the gun at the end of the move, even if their gun fit and movement to the target is perfect.

This positions the eye below the rib and blocks the shooter's visual connection with the target. Your best path to flinchless shooting is to seek the assistance of an experienced instructor who can diagnose and help you resolve your flinch. 

– Don Currie is NSCA's Chief Instructor, an Orvis Wingshooting School instructor, and Master Class competitor. You can also see more tips from Currie at www.doncurrie.com.



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PROVINCIAL BIRD HUNTING SEASONS (and bag limits in brackets)

MPUMALANGA – Gazetted

1 May '26-30 Apr '27	Rock pigeons, Egyptian goose, Spurwing (need licence)
1 May-31 Aug	Yellow-billed duck, red-billed teal, Guineafowl, Swainsons, Natal & Red-Necked Spurfowl, Crested francolin, Coqui francolin, Orange River Partridge, Shelley's.
1 June-31 Aug	Grey Wing, Redwing

FREE STATE – Gazetted – Same as 2025

All year	Rock pigeons, Cape turtle dove, Laughing dove.
15 May-15 Sept	Greywing & O/River partridge, all Spurfowl, common quail, guineaowl, all Francolin (except Redwing), yellow-billed duck & red-billed teal, Egyptian goose, spurwing, Red Knob Coot
1 Jan - 30 Apr	Shelduck (1)
Note:	(maximum 10 land & 10 water birds pp per day)

GAUTENG – Gazetted

1 May-30 April '27	All year. Rock Pigeons (need licence) (20).
1 May-31 Jul	Yellow-bill duck (2).
1 May-31 Aug	Egyptian geese (10);
1 Jun-30 Sep	Swainsons francolin (5). Helmeted Guineafowl (5).

N-WEST PROVINCE – Same as 2025 for now (Draft in process)

All year	Rock pigeons (No limit), Red eyed dove (20), Cape turtle dove (20), laughing dove (20) (licence required).
1 May-30 Sep	Francolin: Red-billed (3), Crested (5); Partridge: Coqui (5), Guineafowl (10).
1 May-30 Aug	Partridge: Shelleys (5), Redwing (5); Quail: Harlequin (5), Common (10); Rameron Pigeon (5).
1 Apr-31 Jul	Partridge: Orange River (5).
1 Apr-15 Jul	Namaqua Sandgrouse (5).
1 Nov-31 Apr	Sandgrouse: Burchells (5), Double-banded (5).
1 May-31 Jul	Duck: White-faced (4), Yellow-bill (4), Cape Teal (4), Red-bill (4), Cape Shoveler (4), Southern Pochard (3), Knob-bill (4), Spurwing (4).
1 Jun-30 Sep	Swainsons Francolin (5), Natal Francolin (3).
1 Jan-31 Jul	Egyptian Goose (4).
1 Jan-31 Mar	Shelduck (2).
Note:	A Maximum combined total of 10 land birds & 10 waterfowl per day.

LIMPOPO – Gazetted

All year	Rock Pigeons (licence) (50), Red-eyed Turtle Dove (50)
1 May- 30 Sep	Guineaowl (10), Crested Francolin, (6), Shelley's (2); Natal francolin (6).
1 May - 31 Jul	Egyptian (6) & spurwing (4), white-faced whistling duck (6), Yellow-bill duck (4), red-billed teal (4).
1 Jun- 30 Sep	Swainson's francolin (8).
Note:	Total combined daily bag of (10 land & 10 water birds)

WESTERN CAPE <https://www.capenature.co.za> – Gazetted

1 Jan-31 Dec	Spurwing (3) & Egyptian goose (10), rock pigeons and Cape turtle dove, Laughing dove, Red eye dove, Speckled Pigeon (40 in total), guineaowl (10),
1 Jan-30 April	Yellow-billed duck, red-billed teal, shelduck, Cape teal, Cape shoveler, southern pochard (5 in all total combined).
1 May-31 Jul	Greywing Partridge (3); Red-necked Francolins (3); Cape Franc. (6). 1 March-30 April – Common quail (2).

NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE – Gazetted Same as 2025

All year	Egyptian Goose (10); Red eyed, Laughing, Cape turtle Doves (10 each) and Rock Pigeons (50).
1 April-31 Dec	Helmeted Guinea-fowl (10);
1 Jan-31 Mar	Shelduck (5).
1 May-31 Aug	Spurwing (5).
1 May- 30 Jun	Orange River Partridge (5), Red-billed Francolin (5), Cape Francolin (5), Natal Francolin (5), Swainsons Francolin (5), Grey-wing Partridge (5).
1 May-31 Aug	Northern Cape Excluding Namaqualand Magisterial District Yellow billed duck (10), Red-bill Teal (10), Cape Teal (10), Cape Shoveler (10), Southern Pochard (10). Namaqua Sandgrouse (10). Burchell's Sandgrouse (5).
1 Apr-15 Jul	Namaqualand Magisterial District Yellow-billed duck (10), Red-billed Teal (10), Cape Teal (10), Cape Shoveler (10), Southern Pochard (10).
1 Jan -31 Mar	A maximum combined total of 10 land birds & 10 waterfowl per day.
1 Jan-30 Apr	
Note:	

EASTERN CAPE – Gazetted – Same as 2025

1 Jan-31 Dec	Red eyed, Laughing, Cape turtle Doves and Rock Pigeons. (need licence).
1 Jun-31 Jul	Rameron Pigeon (Olive Pigeon) (5).
1 Jan-31 Mrt	Shelduck (4).
1 Feb-30 Sept	Egyptian Goose (15).
1 Mrt-30 Sept	Spurwing (5).
1 May-31Aug	Red-billed Teal (3), Yellow-billed Duck (3), White-faced duck (2), Southern Pochard (2), Cape Teal (2), Cape Shoveler (2).
1 May-30 Sept	Guineaowl (5).
1 Oct-30 Nov	Quail (10). (Note: Different in former Ciskei)
1 May-31 Jul	Red-Wing Partidge (2).
1 May-31 Jul	Grey-wing (4), but in Queenstown (2), Orange River Partridge (4), Red-Necked Francolin (4).
1 Jan-31 Dec	Exotic Anseriformes

KZ-NATAL – Same as 2025

31 May-31 Aug	Ordinary Game Licence Required for all. Common Quail, White-faced Duck, Red-billed Teal, Yellow-billed Duck, Egyptian Goose, Spurwing, Helmeted Guineafowl, Rameron Pigeon. Francolin: Red-necked, Natal, Swainsons. Partridge: Grey-wing, Red-wing, Coqui, Crested & Shelleys.
Note:	A Maximum combined total of 10 land birds & 10 waterfowl per day. Other game birds can be shot under a SPECIAL PERMIT during the open season, please contact KZN Hunting & Extension Department on 033 845 1652.

PLEASE NOTE that all members must still consult the respective provincial ordinances, as we do not list species that are not traditionally gamebirds, and we do not take responsibility for information correctness on this page. All exotic Anseriformes are open all year. E&OE.



Please Note: You have to return your licence to the respective provinces, after each season, stating on the licence all the relevant details as asked. This applies to provinces who require this, such as NW Prov, and is stated as such on your licence.

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THE GUNDOG KENNELS

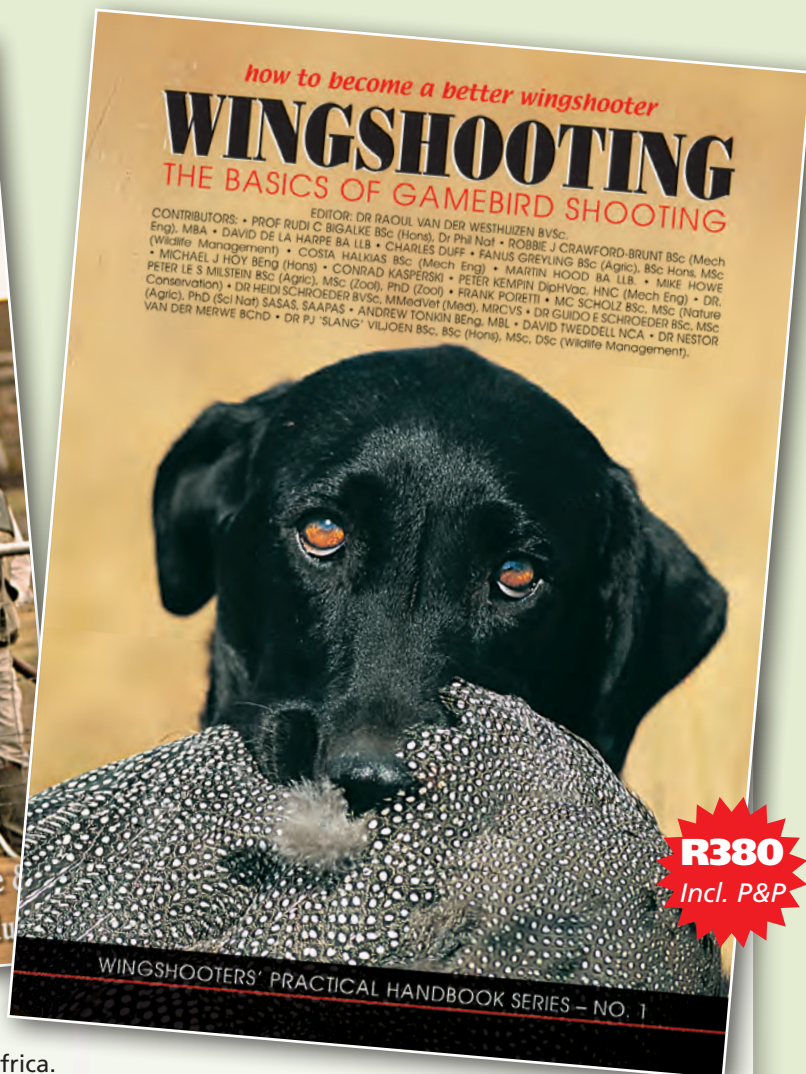
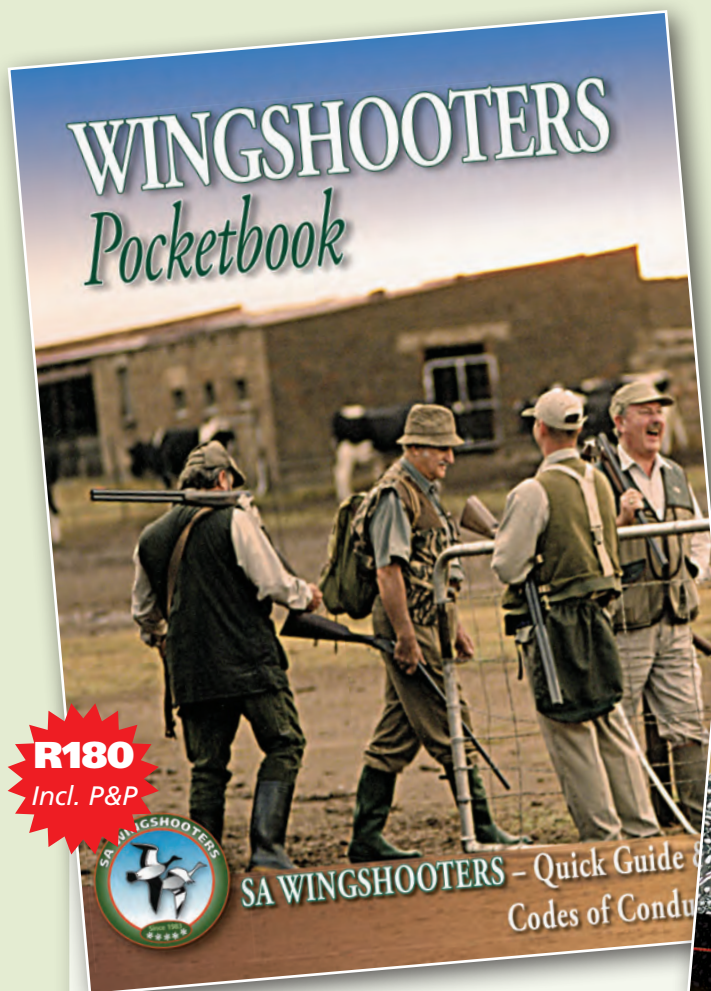
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Contact Dr Slang Viljoen:
084 202 0184, or email:
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This pocketbook is the first of its kind in South Africa. It is an essential 'must have' for every wingshooter, particularly *Dedicated Hunters*, and contains:

- The Wingshooters Codes of Conduct, including the codes for bird dogs, shoot organisers and wildfowlers,
- A guide to the identification of gamebirds in the field,
- The combined shooting and hunting log for use by dedicated hunters to comply with the regulations of the Firearms Control Act, incorporating the landowners' hunting permission form... And much more...

'Every Wingshooter should have one'

'In today's world, where it is so important that all hunters act in a responsible and ethical manner, this pocketbook is an essential part of the field hunting gear of every gamebird shooter. We are pleased to support this pocketbook and I strongly recommend it to all who wish to hunt more responsibly. Every Wingshooter should carry it on him in the field'

— Dr Alan Kloock

MD: MSD

'Respect for all Creatures, Great and Small'

'There are very few, if any, hunters who can say they have never shot the wrong quarry by mistake or have committed some thoughtless act, which they, in hindsight, would like to undo. This pocketbook will help all of us to prevent such mistakes and to embody the Wingshooters motto of Respect For Life.'

— Dr Raoul van der Westhuizen

Chairman: SA Wingshooters

HINTS AND TIPS FROM 20 EXPERTS ON THE BASICS OF WINGSHOOTING

This is not just another book on Wingshooting in Southern Africa. It is the definitive practical handbook by 20 top experts, packed with facts. Whether you are a beginner or an advanced shooter, in these pages you are sure to find lots of new tips and tricks from the old hands. The subjects are covered in short and concise fashion and include:

- Shotguns • Gun fit • Gun care • Gauges & shot sizes • Shotshells and ballistics • Shotgun marksmanship • Safety • Game bird identification • How to shoot francolin, guinea fowl, geese, ducks, sand grouse, rock pigeons, etc. • Gun dog breeds • Training your gun dog • Gun dog nutrition and health • Shooting ethics and etiquette • The Gun Control Act • How to get a hunting licence • Game birds for the dinner table • Field trial clubs & associations

For the first time, this book brings together the collective know-how and experience in game bird shooting of many of the leading wingshooters in Southern Africa — be they scientists, field trialists, gun dog experts, veterinarians or lay people — who all share the passion for wingshooting and the joy of the great African Outdoors. The section on shotgun marksmanship alone makes the handbook worth having. In this section the greatest South African sporting clay shooter ever and 20 times Springbok tells how to shoot any target under any condition. The handbook is edited by the co-founder and first chairman of the SA Wingshooters Association, Raoul van der Westhuizen.

Dedicated REPORTS

Go to:

<https://members.wingshooters.co.za>

and register to create your own profile for your dedicated reports & firearm licence renewal reminders



YOUR ANNUAL DEDICATED ACTIVITY REPORT (Hunt & Sport) – What to do:

How you can send us your report:

Via e-mail, fax or on-line on your personal member profile.

Go to:

<https://members.wingshooters.co.za>

and register to create your own profile; or

Complete a report (you can download it from our website: www.wingshooters.org.za) and e-mail to: anel@wingshooters.co.za or fax to 086 211 5111, or you can email us a report listing 2 activities you did during the year. Dedicated activity reports are mandatory, by law, for all qualified dedicated members!

New Member Online Portal

For Dedicated Activity Reports & Firearm Licence Renewal Notices –

Firstly, It's nearing the end of the season, thus all Dedicated members need to send in their dedicated hunting activity report. **It's a legal (Firearms Control Act 60 of 2000) requirement for Dedicated Hunters and Dedicated Sports persons.** You can send any hunting activities report, whether it was plains game, bird hunting or range shooting and includes rifles, shotgun, handgun use, etc. You only need to list two (2) activities for the year. Remember to send us a report before end October, as we have to send a 'members activity report' to the SAPS every year in November, listing all the members who did not send in a report.

Our online member portal –

You can do it on our new member online portal. Please go to our on-line member area and 'Register' with us:

<https://members.wingshooters.co.za>

Once we've approved your registration request, you can 'Login' and start to use this service for your dedicated reporting and to list your firearms renewal dates for our renewal reminder service. Call the office if you don't know what to do! Tel: 071 132 5450.

You can also enter your dedicated hunting/sport shooting activities report online, on our website! Go to www.wingshooters.org.za and click on the "Dedicated Hunters" menu and complete the form right at the bottom of the page. It's quick and easy!

Or, if you prefer to remain old school you can download the form from the "All Downloads" page on our website. You can fax it to 086 211 5111 or 071 132 5450. You can also send us the same one you might have done for another association you belong to... it needn't be our form.

Join South Africa's Bespoke Sport Shooting, Hunting and Firearms Association



All the hunting & sport shooting, at one association

Some of the great benefits:

- Exclusive members-only access to the Gun Licensing Help-line
- Option to qualify as Dedicated Hunter/Sports Person in terms of Act 60
- Membership of Police-accredited Hunting & Sport shooting Association
- Exclusive hunting rights and shoots for members only
- Access to the National Shooting Venue Database
- Up-to-date information on the Firearms Control Act
- 4 'WINGSHOOTER' magazines with full shooting calendar
- Provincial hunting licences (for most provinces)
- Access to clay shooting clubs, Shotgun/Rifle/Handgun clinics and training
- 25% saving on the handbook WINGSHOOTING, with tips & hints by 21 experts on game bird hunting
- Free advice on shooting seasons, gundogs, shotguns, rifles, handguns, etc.
- Free firearm ENDORSEMENTS for any type of firearm.
- R20 million wingshooters' liability insurance included
- Option to join PSP – Postal Shooting Programme for Handguns & Rifles
- Option to join the Long Range Shooting Club and TPS 4-gun; 3-gun, etc.

YES!

Sign me up and rush me my membership documents

Deposit your subscription by means of Internet banking (EFT) or deposit it in our bank account as per the details below (email us the proof of payment with the application form) to:
anel@wingshooters.co.za

Bank: ABSA Brooklyn
Branch Code: 335-345
Account Name: SA Wingshooters
Account Number: 1500165460

* If you are a dedicated hunter at any other association please attach a copy to receive a credit towards decated hunter status.

* Please enquire about our family memberships.

Non-Profit Organisation Reg. 031-587-NPO • Tel: +27 (0)71 132 5450

E-mail: anel@wingshooters.co.za

or Fax to Email: 086 211 5111

SAPS Accreditation No's: 1300080 & 1300136



SA WINGSHOOTERS 2026

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION: (Tick all appropriate boxes)

1. I wish to join for	☐ 1 Year	☐ 2 Years
Join Fee – Once off, plus:	R 350.-	R 350.-
Subscription – Annual*	R 1,462.-	R 2,750.-
*Subscription – over 70's:	☐ R 903.-	☐ R 1,700.-
*Subscription Junior U/21:	☐ R 280.-	☐ R 520.-

You can also join the PSP (Postal Shooting Programme) for rifle and handgun shooting. The PSP offers participation in our annual target shooting competition in various divisions for rifle and handgun shooting:

2. I also wish to Join the PSP ☐ R 100.- ☐ R 190.-

3. I also wish enroll in the Dedicated Hunter Course

and/or Dedicated Sport Shooter course:

Dedicated Hunter Manual & Test: R 570.- ☐
Dedicated Sport Shooter Test: R 570.- ☐

TOTAL R .- R .-

Payment Method:

EFT ☐ Bank Deposit ☐

You can also pay in person with a card at our offices.

Your Signature

Date

I agree to honour the constitution and I do not have a criminal record. You hereby confirm that you are subscribing to SA Wingshooters Association for a period of one year or two years, depending on your option.

Title (Mr,Mrs,Dr)

Full Names

ID Number

Postal Address

Postal Code

Residential Address

E-Mail *

*(we email members with news regularly)

Office Tel No.

Fax Number

Home Tel No.

Cell Phone No.

* The entry fee of R350 is not payable by younger than 21. The annual subscription fee for Juniors (persons younger than 21) is a nominal R280.- (VAT incl), and for persons 70 and older is R903.- Incl. Family memberships & Student rates available – Contact us

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