

Queensland Back Chat

News & views from QCTA State President Davo Back

October 2021

Davo Back has been a QCTA State Councillor since 2015 and was elected State President at the AGM at Roma in May this year. Davo is currently the Vice President of the Central Zone and his most recent initiatives for Queensland shooters include the Zone Shoulder to Shoulder Teams competition, now conducted in its own allocated time slot on the Saturday night of the annual DTL state carnival, introduction of the Handicap Spectacular interclub competition widely contested in the Central and Western Zones, and coaching clinics specifically for women and girls.



Hello Queensland,

A few months have now passed since becoming the captain of our ship and at our first full council meeting, I hope we can really get some direction and set some goals for our association in all disciplines. We have introduced a number of sub-committee's that will give Trench, Sporting & Skeet a platform for passing on initiatives and ideas so each discipline will hopefully flourish under more of their own guidance.

If you have some input or ideas that might benefit our sport, let someone know. Don't be afraid to ask questions, ask your delegate, ask your State Councillors, they are there to represent you. If you are unsure of who's who, ask your club to point you in the right direction. Constructive suggestions for improvement are always welcome and we can build on an already great association with your positive contribution.

We had an amazing Trap carnival, record attendances, & a great few days shooting. Thank you, Roma & the Western Zone for hosting and running such a great carnival and we're really looking forward to Townsville next year!

At the beginning of June our state ISSF carnival was held in Brisbane and although Covid played havoc with Victorian shooters unable to attend it was still well supported by shooters under the circumstances. Thanks must go to all our Qld competitors that made the trip for this event. QCTA and Zone personnel were a little light on the ground so a big thanks to those who helped in whatever way they could to keep things rolling, in particular club volunteers.

June also saw our first stand-alone state 5-Stand Sporting carnival in Toowoomba, & on very little notice Toowoomba members did a magnificent job to fulfil their commitment and host another great carnival for the South East Zone and our state.

Thankfully the threat of Covid lockdowns in the South-East did not interfere with our Skeet carnival this year, which was very strongly supported by Queensland shooters, and we thank the Toowoomba Clay Target Club for their hard work as the host venue for this event. In many cases Covid has continued to hamper club's activities but it is uplifting to see them pressing on under the difficult circumstances.

Our state is a great one, a strong and competitive one. If I had to pick a single adjective though it would be Hospitable. Everywhere we go it is a pleasure to be met with warm friendly hospitality, something clubs take great pride in delivering, and has been appreciated by ourselves along with many of our friends interstate.

I look forward to seeing you around the traps.
Always be kind

Davo Back

Congratulations!



Brisbane Gun Club registered 532 financial ACTA members in September breaking an all-time Queensland record. A massive effort from our capital city club – well done BGC, committee and members.



The Central Zone broke attendance records for club 2-day shoots through the full 2021 year. Gemfields topped that list with 157 shooters at their annual. Congratulations to president Iain Robertson and his team, always great to receive so many positive reports about well-run shoots.



Fast cementing their reputation for first class hospitality, we thank the Toowoomba Clay Target Club for hosting both the Qld State Sporting and Qld State Skeet Carnivals this year. A favourite venue for shooters.



A clean sweep for the Northern Zone! Skeet teams in all categories won gold in the InterZone postal teams match at the State Skeet Carnival 2021. Congratulations to all team members, photos in the Winner's Gallery.



Well done to the Gladstone Clay Target Club, recognised by the Gladstone Chamber of Commerce & Industry for the Best in Business Awards. Not just an achievement in itself, but great publicity for our sport to be recognised for a mainstream business award.



More than 30 break badges have been sent out to shooters in the past two months, for multiple breaks across all disciplines. Well done to those shooters and for the clubs recognising these milestone achievements.

STATE AFFILIATION FEE

Just to clear up any confusion about our State Fee, the following notice was issued to all clubs in 2018.

At the 2017 AGM Queensland clubs voted in support of an increase to the state affiliation fee from \$10 to \$20 per member, the first increase since 2009. The increased rate just brought our fee into line with other states of similar membership. The QCTA cannot promote, develop or further clay target shooting in Queensland, or meet obligations to members without this membership levy.

State events return a very marginal profit at best and almost all associated costs to conduct events have increased. The QCTA therefore relies on funding in conjunction with the state fee to continue to operate as a state level association and to provide services to members.

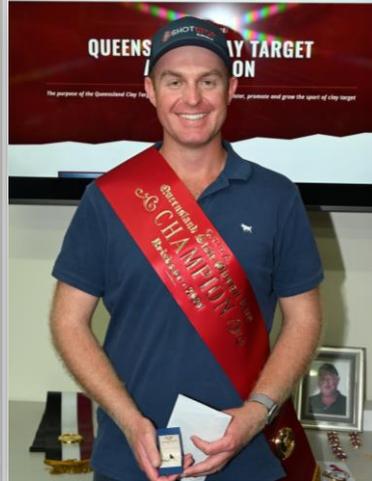
The state affiliation fee does not 'go into the pockets' of State Executive or State Council members, who contribute their time and service on a totally voluntary basis, and no portion of the increase goes toward state administrative salaries.

Where possible the state fee is returned to shooters through activities and projects undertaken by the QCTA to benefit as many members as possible. As an example:

- State uniforms, shooting jackets and travel subsidies are funded entirely by the QCTA and are provided to every member who qualifies for a Queensland representative team. Across all disciplines around 50 shooters may participate in teams each year.
- The QCTA continues to provide low interest loans to clubs under our State Loan Assistance Program to improve club services, facilities and benefit members.
- The State coaches conduct 5 - 6 open coaching clinics across Queensland every year for DTL alone, servicing all Zones. Over the past 13 years many shooters have benefited from the services provided by our state coaching program.



Queensland State Champions 2021



Clockwise from top left:

- Darryn Nicholls – DTL Overall Highgun
- James Willett – Mens Olympic Trap Champion
- Penny Smith – Womens Olympic Trap Champion
- Penny Smith & Thomas Grice – Mixed Pairs
- Paul Adams – Mens Olympic Skeet Champion
- Chloe Tipple – Womens Olympic Skeet Champion
- Mark Farrow – Overall ParaTrap Champion
- Craig O'Neill – Skeet Overall Highgun
- Aaron Knowles – 5-Stand Sporting Overall Highgun



Queensland State Carnivals 2022

State Trap Carnival
Townsville Gun Club
30th April – 2nd May 2022

State 5-Stand Sporting Carnival
Townsville Gun Club
25th & 26th June 2022

State ISSF Carnival
Brisbane Gun Club
8th – 10th July 2022

State Skeet Carnival
Roma Clay Target Club
15th – 18th September 2022



Northern Zone News

Good attendances have been recorded at all Annual Shoots and Northern Zone Carnivals in 2021 with Burdekin, Normanton, Cloncurry, Karumba, Townsville, Port Denison, Charters Towers, Herbert River & Silkwood all running successful events. Upcoming Annual Shoots in the Northern Zone include events at Charters Towers and Atherton with the Zone ISSF Skeet and Tower Carnivals being hosted by Townsville later in the year. Don't forget to keep up with all the action in the Northern Zone on My Clubs My Scores, with all clubs now using the program.

We have hosted our Zone ISSF Trap, Skeet, Continental and Trap Carnivals for 2021 with Dean Reeves taking out the ISSF Trap Overall Title in Normanton, Joe Davis winning the Skeet High Gun at Charters Towers, Antony Ballarino proving good at the Continental in Port Denison and Bill Pavy taking out the Trap Overall High Gun at Townsville. Zone teams have been selected for the DTL and Skeet with the Skeet teams posting competitive scores winning the Open, Veterans and Ladies events in the Postal Competition. The DTL Teams awaiting their chance to compete at the State Trap Carnival next year in Townsville.

Some recent major projects within the Northern Zone include the installation of a new 2.2km water main & caravan power points at Normanton, new storage sheds at the Burdekin & Port Denison and new caravan power and water points at Silkwood & Townsville. Herbert River have now setup their 5 Stand Sporting layout and will begin having 5 Stand Events. Karumba hosted their first Annual Shoot since reopening having rebuilt their main layout which includes a brand-new Canterbury Trap. The wheels are in motion for the rebuilding of their second Layout, with a loan Canterbury Trap being provided by Normanton. Northern Zone Clubs appreciate the effort David McMahon puts in to securing grants to make these upgrade works happen. We would like to remind all clubs about the Upcoming "Field of Play" upgrade grant through Sports and Rec QLD.

The remaining Zone Events for the Northern Zone include the Zone ISSF Skeet (Townsville, October) and the Zone Tower Events (Townsville, November). Good luck to everyone competing at these events.

Ben Beazley



From left:
New layout at Karumba Gun Club.
Joe Collins celebrates his 94th
birthday at Herbert River annual.
Ready for installation at
Normanton Gun Club.



THE WINNER'S GALLERY

Whether it's a high gun, break badge, sash or a personal best, congratulations to all those who have celebrated a win.



Congratulations to the Northern Zone winning gold in all categories in the Inter Zone Postal Skeet Teams match for 2021. Pictured are the Open, Ladies and Veterans winning teams.



Congratulations to Bree Collins for her selection to the Australian Junior World Championship team.



Dean Reeves, Overall Northern Zone ISSF Champion.



Impressive Overall Highgun win at Scrubby Creek for Romanna McGuren.



Mike Swale, Ron Clapham Memorial Trophy winner at Brisbane Gun Club.



B Grade Highgun winner at the Tambo annual, Annabell Chandler.



Well done to Lynda Potter, C Grade Highgun and first sash win at the Northern Zone DTL Carnival.