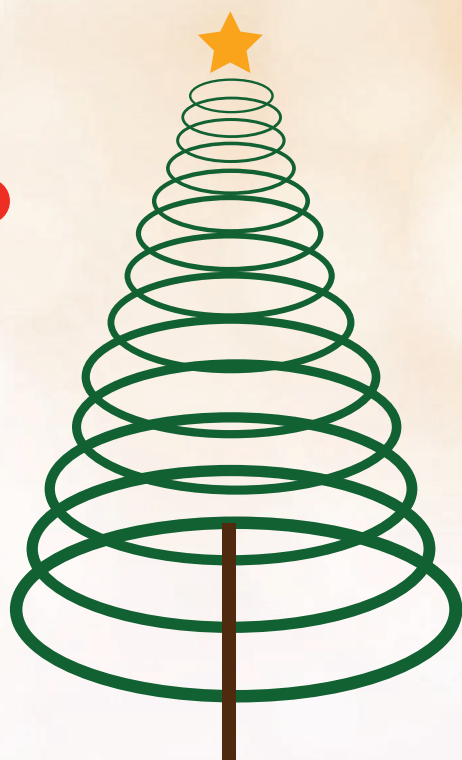


NEWSLETTER



UPCOMING EVENTS:

1 February 2025:
Gauteng Open

14 - 15 February 2025:
Leeu van Wes-Transvaal

1 - 2 March 2025:
Gauteng North Open

29 March 2025:
Free State Open

30 Mar - 5 Apr 2025:
SA Open Championships

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Messages from our President and Chairman
- News about past and upcoming events
- Announcement of Group for the ICFRA Pairs and Individual International Matches
- Rules and Regulation changes



President's Message 2024

Once again the year has flown by, it seems to me that it was just a few weeks ago that I sat down to write last year's message. As I find myself looking back over the past year, thinking of the festive season as well as the year ahead, the following comes to mind; friendships, camaraderie, sportsmanship and our shooting community.

Sadly, once again, this year families have lost loved ones, had to deal with illness, whilst others have had to deal with difficult times and circumstances. While most of us have been able to carry on with our lives in a normal fashion., my thoughts go out to all families which have lost loved ones or are struggling with difficulties with compassion. We also remember fellow shooters and friends we have lost with humility and respect.

I think it is fair to say SABU has done well over the past year.. The two SA Open Championships were successfully presented in the traditional fashion, attracting a large group of overseas visitors who were very welcome. The PALMA World Long Range Championship was a huge success allowing us to look back with pride and satisfaction on an event extremely well organized and presented. My congratulations to all those involved in organizing and presenting these events.

The year ahead has a more normal program with two SA open championships (TR and F Class), Presenting the SA Open Championship is none the less a challenging undertaking and I wish the organizers every success in presenting these events. I hope things go smoothly for all concerned. I further welcome all the overseas visitors who might join us, wishing them a safe and enjoyable visit

This brings me to our local shoots and ordinary shooters which we must not forget as they are the life blood of the sport. I know they face rising costs, scarcities of propellant and other components on top of which there are, in some cases, limited opportunities to practice. It is up to all of us to encourage and help them wherever possible. I also appeal to those organizing shoots to try to keep entry fees as low as possible so that those whose funds are limited are not driven away.

I understand that there are a fair number of newcomers to the sport to whom I extend a warm welcome. Some folk take to Bisley shooting effortlessly and do well from the word go, others take a while longer and have to persevere to get to a reasonably competitive level. However the effort is worth it. The reward of shooting a reasonable score is in itself very satisfying. Furthermore most of the shooters are friendly, very helpful as well as being most enjoyable social company, in getting to know them one can make wonderful friendships that last a lifetime.

The most important part of this message is to share the Christmas message of peace on Earth and joy and goodwill with you all. I wish all of you and your families a blessed and happy Christmas. May the New Year bring us all happiness, hope, good health, safety, success and good shooting.

God bless and keep you all safe.

Syd.



From the pen of our Chairman

WE DID IT AGAIN!

Another great year for SABU with yet again another successful World Championships – two in a row. A big thank you to everyone who played their part in making the championships the success it was. What a picture was it not to see 80 targets in full operations – something to remember!

Met al die uitslae op ons webtuiste asook vervat in die artikel van Willem O'Neill, kan ons weereens net ons skuts en die Suid-Afrikaanse en SABU spanne geluk wens met hulle prestasies.

Then congratulations to our new u/21 World Champion – Noah Bennett – well done!!!

As ons terugkyk na die twee Wêreld Kampioenskappe (F klas & TR) en ons kyk na die prestasies van ons skuts en spanne, kan ons voorwaar trots wees op ons skuts. In die spanwedstryde het ons 'n goue medalje, 'n silwer medalje en 3 brons medaljes verower. Dan het ons 3 individuele Wêreld Kampioene. Hierdie prestasies is nog nie in die geskiedenis van SABU behaal nie. Ons het ons uitdagings maar ons tel definitief onder die 3 top skietlande in die wêreld en 'n land om dop te hou in die Wêreld Kampioenskappe van 2026 & 2028.

Die F Klas SA Ope Kampioenskappe is net na die Wêreld Langafstand Kampioenskappe aangebied en die gehalte van skiet was weereens uit die boonste rakke – baie geluk aan al die wenners!!

'n Groot Dankie aan al ons skuts en hulle families vir die opofferings wat gemaak word om ons sport te beoefen en SABU se naam hoog te hou.

The end of the year definitely signalled the beginning of the new cycle in the history of SABU. The starting point for all of us is to practice our sport, regardless the class you shoot in, and to enjoy it. It is also SABU's primary goal to make the above possible for our members.

Met die 2025 seisoen wat vroeg in Januarie afskop kyk skuts met verskillende oë na die jaar wat voorlê. Daar is die wat kyk na die provinsiale programme en beplan wat hulle wil skiet en net hulle sport wil geniet. Aan die anderkant is daar die wat hard voorberei om die SA Ope Kampioenskappe by te woon en hulle beste daar te gee. Daar is 'n goue pot aan die einde van reënboog vir die wat hard werk – jy kan vir spanne gekies word by SAs, jy kan vir groepe en/of spanne gekies word vir die volgende Wêreld Kampioenskappe OF vir die Australiese Wedstryd en ICFRA Wedstryde in 2026 in Australië. SAs volgende jaar is dus belangrik om by te woon en goed te doen as jy in aanmerking wil kom vir bogemelde groepe en/of spanne.

Maar SA's is nie net vir skuts wat bogemelde wil behaal nie – die SA Ope Kampioenskappe bied iets vir almal.

Daar is veranderinge aan die SA Ope Program aangebring – gaan kyk gerus op ons webtuiste hoe lyk hy.



Die grootste veranderinge is waarskynlik dat:

- Die SAs word geskiet vanaf die Maandag die 31ste Maart tot Saterdag die 5de April 2025.
- Die Vrystaat Bisley en Skotse Swaard word die Saterdag en Sondag voor die begin van die kampioenskappe geskiet ter voorbereiding van de SAs.
- Dan dring almal nou deur na die 3de Stadium van die Staatspresident die Saterdag middag. Gee jousef die kans om die stoel te kom ry.

Kom ons almal gaan woon die SAs by – hoe lekker sal dit nie wees om weer 60 plus skywe sien wat gebruik word nie – bederf jousef met die week by die SA Ope Kampioenskappe waar die hele SABU saam skiet en kuier.

Hierdie jaar het ook sy hartseer gehad en het ons 'n aantal lede in ons skietgemeenskap verloor asook van hul familie en vriende. Kom ons neem 'n paar oomblikke en dink aan hulle en hou hulle in ons gedagtes en gebede.

As we enter the festive season, I want to extend my warmest wishes to all of you. Your dedication and commitment to SABU and our sport is truly appreciated. The season is a time for reflection, gratitude and celebrations. I hope you find joy and peace with your loved ones. May the new year bring you much health, happiness and success

2024 was definitely another year to celebrate – here is to another successful year ahead, working together to showcase our sport.

With my very best wishes to you all

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Groete

Bernand De Beer

Geseënde Kersfees



SABU ON THE MOVE

So we are all looking forward to the next cycle of 4 years in the history of SABU which will include the F-Class World Championships 2026 and the Long Range World Championships 2028.

But before that we are going to have a very busy 2025.

Herewith the key dates for 2025:

1.	Gauteng Open Championships	-	1 February 2025
2.	Leeu van Wes-Transvaal	-	14 – 15 February 2025
3.	Gauteng North Open Championships	-	1 – 2 March 2025
4.	Free State Open Championships	-	29 March 2025
5.	SA Open Championships	-	30 March – 5 April 2025
6.	Mpumalanga Open Championships	-	2 August 2025
7.	SABU Long Range Championships	-	14 – 16 August 2025
8.	Kwa-Zulu Natal Open Championships	-	13 September 2025
9.	Western Province Open Championships	-	8 – 11 October 2025
10.	Louis Le Grange Noordelike Bonde	-	25 October 2025
11.	Griqualand West Open Championships	-	31 October – 1 November 2025
12.	Eastern Province Open Championships	-	14 – 15 November 2025

Further to the above, the F-Class groups/teams will have their multiple practice camps in preparation for the F-Class World Championships to be held at Bisley, England during August 2026. We are looking forward to the announcements of the F Open and F/TR teams to compete in the mentioned Championships.

SABU has also been invited by the National Rifle Association of Australia (NRAA) to compete in the Australia Match in October 2026. We can enter a TR Senior and TR U/25 team. Provision was also made for F/TR, F Open and TR Veterans teams to compete in different matches on different days as the Australia Match.

As you all probably know the Commonwealth Games was held every four years which made provision for shooting, including fullbore rifle but limited to TR. As to date, shooting as a whole is excluded from the Commonwealth Games.

The good news is that ICFRA have decided to preserve the unique format of the Commonwealth Games fullbore rifle events in an own ICFRA event – the ICFRA Pairs & Individual International Matches - for all members of ICFRA and for TR and F-Class.

Countries can enter two pairs (if range space allow it) otherwise only one to compete in the pairs match. Thereafter the individuals that have competed in the pairs match will then compete in the individual match.

The first ICFRA International Match will be held in the days immediately following the Australia Match in October 2026.

Die SABU Raad het die deelname aan die "Australia Match" en die "ICFRA Pairs and Individual International Matches" goedgekeur tydens die Oktober Raadsvergadering.

In die lig van bogemelde het die TR Keurkomitee voortgegaan en 'n groep gekies wat sal meeding vir 'n plek in die TR Senior Pare.

Die groep is:

Bestuurder:	De Beer JB
Skuts:	1. Ahrens J
	2. Coetzee FWA
	3. Di Bona JM
	4. Gouws RJ
	5. Haasbroek PA
	6. Jacobs H
	7. Jonck JC
	8. Maritz JH
	9. Maritz SG
	10. Möller AP
	11. Scheepers CO
	12. Smit PA



Baie Geluk aan hulle en sterkte met die pad vorentoe. Die kriteria vir die kies van die finale pare sal eersdaags versprei word.

Die TR Keurkomitee sal na die SA Ope Kampioenskappe 2025 'n groep aandui waaruit die O/25 paar gekies sal word. Al die O/25 skuts word hiermee uitgenooi om die SA Ope Kampioenskappe te kom bywoon en om deel te word van n baie spesiale geleentheid - om met die beste O/25 skuts in die wêreld mee te ding.

Die besluit is geneem om 'n SA Protea Span in the skryf vir die "Australia Match". Die TR Keurkomitee sal na afloop van die SA Ope Kampioenskappe 2025 'n groep kies waaruit die finale span gekies sal word om te gaan deelneem aan die "Australia Match". Die finale kriteria vir die kies van die groep en span daarna sal ook eersdaags versprei word.

Die deelname aan bogemelde kpioenskappe vir F-Klas sal bespreuk word deur die F Klas Klub se komitee, veral in die lig gesien daarvan dat die F-Klas Wêreld Kampioenskappe letterlik 2 maande vroeër in Engeland plaasgevind het. Ons verwittig u van hul besluit binnekort.

Die wiele begin ook rol vir Palma 2028. Baie geluk aan Bernand De Beer wat weer verkies is as Kaptein vir die Palma span. Die kriteria vir die kies van die tersaaklike groep/span sal ook binnekort versprei word.

Daar is baie om voor te werk en is die SA Ope Kampioenskappe 2025 'n belangrike jaar vir TR en F-Klas skuts veral as al bogemelde in ag geneem word. Gryp hierdie geleentehede aan en wees deel daarvan.

Kom skiet die "nuwe" SA Ope Kampioenskap in 2025 weer saam met mekaar (F-Klas & TR) en geniet dit en maak herhinneringe wat jou 'n leeftyd sal hou. Bring 'n vriend of twee saam baan toe dat hy ook ons unieke sport kan sien en ervaar.

Ons sien julle op die baan.

Groete
SABU



31 March - 5 April 2025

Come and enter for the Championships!

Entry forms are available on the SABU website: www.sabisley.com

Closing date for entries is 28 February 2025.

SA Bisley Union - World Long Range Championships 2024

A glimpse behind the scenes of the Target Rifle Palma Squad
by Willem O'Neill

Step-up for the ramp-up

Dedicated sport shooters will agree that competing on international level cannot be regarded as a hobby anymore, the moment you aspire to enter the winners' circle. Nor can you regard it a pastime pursuit if you want to remain amongst the best in the world. Discipline, diligence and deliberate dedication becomes the norm if you want to succeed, and this often means sacrifice.

This was no different for the SABU shooters that participated in the SA Open Championship, World Long Range individual championship, and eventually the Palma team championship.

The road for the TR Palma squad actually started during the Covid-19 recovery period through trials and rigorous selection processes. Bisley shooting in South Africa has a long-standing history of highly competitive members and a culture of rivalry amongst friends. Elements that contribute to the successes to be shared in this article.

The same road unfolded for the SABU Veteran team, as well as the U/25 Junior Protea team that performed extremely well in their respective World Championship divisions.

The moment the final squad has been announced, the time for any lightheartedness, becomes a thing of the past. The mental, physical and technical preparations need to kick into top gear and maintained throughout all practice camps, prize shoots and all forms of team engagements in the run-up to the big event. Strong leadership, team member focus and unwavering commitment from all need to form part of the make-up of the squad, including the selfless support received from family and colleagues during the journey.

The Palma team met on numerous occasions in Bloemfontein (where the championships were hosted) for practice camps, where individuals' skills were honed and team methodologies were drilled and perfected. All known variables are carefully anticipated and strategic adjustments are made to these methodologies that in turn gets practiced to a point where it becomes second nature.

Technical preparations form a key pillar to the team strategy and no expense is spared to ensure that equipment and components are to the highest possible standard to effectively compete against the best of best on the planet. Barrels, bullets, cases, powders and primers are tested years in advance to find the best possible ballistic combinations for the range conditions and the team's performance goals.

Sport in South Africa has some of the best examples of setting and keeping a winning mentality, and this applies to Bisley shooting to similar intensity. Team members need to be in the best mental state until the last shot is made on match day, and then the process starts all over again. This means dealing with challenges and emotions on and off the range in a manner that keeps everybody focused, where every team member feels supported and the sense of unity is unshaken by setbacks, but also constantly uplifted.

South African Open Championship

The World Championships were opened with the South African Open Championship from 9-15 March 2024. The competition is well known around the world and Genl De Wet Range in Bloemfontein notorious for the weather conditions it offers the sport. The championships offer matches varying from 300m to 900m in both individual format as well as team matches.

In the RSA International match (800m and 900m) the Protea team made a statement to take the gold

medal with Great Britain in second place and the team from Australia in third. United States, New Zealand and Canada followed. In an equally immaculate display of experience, the South African Veterans team swooped up the first place by winning with 1 point and V-bull over Australia, with Great Britain in third place and the USA in fourth. In the u/25 match the team of Australia took first place, USA came second and Great Britain finished in third. The Junior Proteas had to settle for fourth place but beat New Zealand convincingly to put them in fifth place. This effort showed great promise of what our youngsters are capable of under pressure.



During the individual matches the conditions did not make it easy for the shooters. The conditions spoiled shooters in the morning with zero wind to a mere 1 Minute of Angle (MoA) change, and pristine shots would have kept you in the 5-ring. However, after lunch, the crosswinds would mercilessly make 3 MoA pick-ups or drop offs within seconds, and shooters hoped to be squadded at the side of the range where the wind flags could warn you of an oncoming condition of this sort. Being squadded on the side of the range where the wind is coming from, left shooters to use the grass and trees to see such changes, and frankly proven to be impossible. The last distance of the final match, the State President 3rd stage at 900m, was memorable in this regard. The wind came predominately over the left shoulder of the shooters, crossing the range diagonally from the back, at velocities varying from below 4 mph to 12+ mph. Long range shooters will know how this condition can become very difficult considering such vast changes in velocity and the extreme impact a small change in angle will have on bullet impact. Missing a small change in direction for a few seconds, will surely keep you out of the 5-ring, while missing a pick-up or drop-off in velocity combined with an angle change, will easily put the bullet in the 3-ring – magpie as it is known. A particular shot is made with 0.5 MoA on the sight's wind dial, while the shot thereafter will need 7 MOA on the dial to hit centre. Talk about having the guts to make such big shifts, in your mind and on the rifle sights.

Concluding the SA Open Champs, the Protea International match, shot over 4 distances, already gave an idea of what's to come in the upcoming Palma match – the ultimate world long range championship match for fullbore shooting. Great Britain managed to gain points on the Proteas and finished in the first place at the end of the day, with the South African team receiving the silver medal and Australia in third place. The USA, New Zealand and Germany suffered in the windy conditions and followed in the ranks.

SA Championship results:

SA Championship

Rank	Shooter	Country	Score
1	B Green	USA	924.93Vs
2	MJ Ensor	GB	923.101Vs
3	FWA Coetzee	RSA	921.100Vs

RSA International Match (Seniors)

Rank	Team	Score
1	South Africa	2356.229Vs
2	Great Britain	2342.237Vs
3	Australia	2331.207Vs

RSA International Match (Veterans)

Rank	Team	Score
1	South Africa	1126.73Vs
2	Australia	1125.72Vs
3	Great Britain	1121.74Vs

Protea Match

Rank	Team	Score
1	Great Britain	3156.331Vs
2	South Africa	3123.297Vs
3	Australia	3110.279Vs

Chairman's Match

Rank	Team	Score
1	SABU Invitation	760.57Vs
2	USA Goodwill	756.50Vs
3	SABU President	750.50Vs



World Long Range Championship:

The World Long Range Championship is traditionally opened by the Veterans and U/25 Team championships. The sun warmed the earth from early on the morning of the team shoots, and it was clear that the heat will play a role, testing team member's endurance and concentration.

The youngsters from South Africa competed very hard to make the final team and were challenged with controlling their excitement for the tremendous task at hand, to execute on what were practiced over so many months. They all seemed very focused and relaxed by the time the first shots start, and the proud parents were close by supporting them all the way from the spectators' seats. The final results of the match were literally determined at the last distance, as the U/25 teams from the various countries kept a very high level of shooting performance. At the end of the day, Great Britain showed why their youngsters remains a force to be reckoned with, taking first place with USA in second place. The Junior Proteas pulled it off to keep Australia out of the medals and won the bronze medal through showing grit till the end, just doing what they have "rehearsed" so many times, keeping shots in the middle of the target. A well-deserved podium place indeed.



Alongside the juniors, the SABU Veteran team did not have it easy either. Considering the challenges that veterans in general have in South Africa to actively keep shooting, it is evident that this team was made up of the best our sport has to offer in terms of tenacity, dedication and admirable sportsmanship. Above the competitive nature of the day, the team also made effort to enjoy the event, with sharp humor to control the tension, yet keeping the focus on the firing line. The senior citizens put up a commendable display of endurance and finally end up in third place, winning the bronze over USA, with Great Britain in second place and the team from Australia crowned as the Veteran World Champs. Well done to SABU's Veterans for setting such a splendid example to other shooters.



The individual championship is shot over 3 days, at 700m, 800m and 900m every day. The first distance to open the championship seemed almost too easy, with a fairly strong but constant crosswind that ensured multiple shooters making the possible score. This however changed drastically by the time the second distance commenced with winds crossing the shooter diagonally over shoulder from the left, but wind closer to the targets crossing the range diagonally from the right, with rapid changes in direction. The game was on, with the last distance at 900m presenting fast pick-ups and quick drop-offs, catching shooters by surprise in the aim. Day 1 of the championships already created major gaps between leaders and those sitting at the bottom of the scoreboard.

The second day of the championship almost repeated the conditions from the first day. During the first distance at 700m, the conditions went easy on all the shooters and ensured all had a confidence boost. Short-lived however for some. The next two distances saw those typical weather conditions that made the angle at which the wind was blowing, the main element to concentrate on. It does become a challenge if you are squaddled at a target where flag angle is difficult to determine from where you are lying, making it easy to miss small changes, especially while you are going into your final aim. Even small mistakes in your wind judgement, can cost points while other shooters are filling it up. A couple of major pick-ups in wind speed sparked some excitement at 900m, perfect World Championship conditions. Great scores were shot at the day, making sure the scoreboard is shuffled from day 1.

Day 3, the last day of the individual championships, presented conditions that were not experienced the previous two days. For the untrained eye, the conditions would seem calmer and easier to shoot in, but this proved not to be the case. The wind was treacherous with changes big enough to keep you out of the center bull (5-ring) while the angle of the flags showed a delay in response from what the mirage is doing. The final day's scores showed how difficult the conditions were to read and adjust for, causing significant upsets on the scoreboard.

The top 10 shooters on the aggregate of the three days, qualified for an exciting shoot-off for the title of World Long Range Champion. After a close contest on V-bulls (even scores and six V-bull difference), Ashley Bidgood of Australia became the 2024 World Individual Long Range Champion. Glyn Barnett of Great Britain came in second, and Jon Underwood of Great Britain came in third, lagging only 1 point behind the first two.

SABU is extremely proud of Noah Bennet being crowned U/21 World Champion, who also shot in the U/25 junior Protea team.

It was finally time for the Palma, the team World Long Range Championships.

Typical of an international event, the atmosphere on the first morning was filled with tension, seriousness, and extreme focus. The running up days saw friendships being strengthened, strangers laughing with each other, and life-long bonds being formed. For the moment, this was all placed on the back burner. Shooters reserved them to their respective teams, focusing on preparations and team talks from captains, leaving the only audible sound that of the range officer's announcements.

The weather conditions were mildly calm with pick-ups and drop-offs on the wind that were fairly readable. These were not the conditions the Protea team hoped for. The range is known for its trickery and sometimes gusty winds, and these are the elements that would give the home team a sure advantage. Unfortunately, the team had a few setbacks and points were dropped unnecessarily, placing the Protea team in third place at the end of the first match day, with Australia leading comfortably.

That evening, the team from South Africa regrouped, analysing the lessons learned and got to bed early for a good night rest.

The second day brought forth the calmest, most timid conditions experienced on the range in a very long time. Yet again, not the conditions the Proteas were hoping for. Nonetheless, each team member knew what was expected of him/her, and executed with precision and passion accordingly. Evident of the high standard of Bisley shooting across the world, the Palma records were broken by multiple teams, including individual scores shattered previous records held. The Proteas shooters shot the best score ever recorded for a South African team in a world championship and the coaches were deadly accurate with their wind calls during the day. What an exhilarating emotion, profound pride, and absolute privilege to both being part of such a team or to observe as a supporter of the Green and Gold. Months of preparation and sacrifice culminating at the end, to a point where other countries admitted that this were one of the best Protea team performances seen in the history of shooting.



With literally 2 points difference between the team finishing first for the day and the team finishing fourth (3592.522 and 3590.536), the gap of the first day could not be closed, as Australia and Great Britain also displayed world class shooting during the day, keeping their leads. South Africa won the Bronze medal and could still keep their heads high for the commitment and dedication showed when it mattered most. Australia was crowned world champion team with Great Britain in second place. Team USA, still a force to be reckoned with, took fourth place, followed by New Zealand, Canada and Germany respectively.



Palma 2024 was concluded. Yes, the South African team would have been ecstatic with a gold medal, seen that it was shot on our home range, with many elements counting in our favour. But winning against others, is but one form of victory in our sport. Winning over your own personal best, and winning against the team's historical performance, it just as great a feat when you know you gave it your best at the day, and your best during the preparation phase.

SABU's international teams; the Senior Proteas, the Veterans and the U/25 Junior Proteas, made our federation proud during the 2024 World Long Range Championships. Imagine the accomplishments awaiting the teams in the Palma hosted in England, in 2028.

Veterans World Championships

Rank	Team	Score
1	Australia	1926.190Vs
2	Great Britain	1908.137Vs
3	South Africa	1880.130Vs

U/25 World Championships

Rank	Team	Score
1	Great Britain	968.78Vs
2	USA	958.84Vs
3	South Africa	948.86Vs

Palma Team Championships

Rank	Team	Score
1	Australia	7172.996Vs
2	Great Britain	7168.1005Vs
3	South Africa	7153.869Vs





Affiliation & Membership fees for 2025

Annual Member / Jaarlikse Lid	R 850.00
Affiliated Member / Geaffilieerde Lid	R 850.00
Veterans over 70 / Veterane Bo 70	R 215.00
Junior (Under 19 – Onder 19)	R 425.00
Full Time Student Under 25	R 425.00
Life member Levy / Lewens Lange Lede	R 425.00
Life member/Lewens Lange Lede O/Bo 70	R 215.00
Late Payment Fee (If paying after 28/02/2025)	R 50.00
Club affiliation / Klub affiliasie:	R 950.00
Provincial affiliation / Provinsiale affiliasie:	R 2 450.00

All forms are available for download on the SABU website: www.sabisley.com

SABU office hours over festive period

Please note that the SABU office will be closed from 17 December 2024 to 7 January 2025.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE that the SABU office telephone number has changed. In future please use the following number: 082 490 0193



Changes to SABU F Class Rules

The following changes of SABU F Class rules were approved by SABU Council:

Current SABU rule, FC2.1.14.

The F-Open rifle may be supported by front and rear rests, or on bags (front and rear), which provide no positive mechanical method for returning the rifle to its point of aim for the previous shot, nor may the rear bag be placed on or in a mechanically adjustable base. The area of contact between the front bag and the rifle fore-end shall not exceed 76mm x 76mm. No more than two rests may be used to support the rifle. If two rests are employed, they may not be attached to each other.

Change to:

FC2.1.14.1 The F/O rifle may be supported by a bag or a Front rest containing a bag(s), which may be fully adjustable for position but may not provide a positive mechanical method for returning the rifle to its point of aim for the previous shot; nor may the rifle be supported or guided during recoil by rollers, wheels, or any other mechanical device other than bags that comes in direct contact with it. 'Bag' is as defined at F2.8 below. The area of contact between the front rest and the rifle fore-end will not exceed 76mm x 76mm. The F/O front rest may be employed for either the rifle's fore-end or for the shooter's forward hand. If attached, clamped or held onto the rifle in any way, a front rest must be included in the rifle's overall weight. The front rest may have up to three "feet". Each such "foot" may terminate in a spike, which may be pressed into the ground by up to 50mm (about 2") provided this causes no significant permanent harm or indentation to the firing point

FC2.2.14.2 The contents of front and rear bags will be a dry, finely (< 5 mm) divided substance such as, but not limited to sand, gravel, or grain, packed loosely enough so that the bag must be visibly deformable on sides and top by pressure of the range officer's fingers.

Current SABU Rule, FC 14.3

A member of a team may change his rifle at any time, subject to Rules FC6.12 and FC8.1, but as a consequence may not fire any extra sighting shots. A team may NOT substitute the shooter concerned by a reserve. No extension will be given to a team's allotted time for the time taken to change a rifle.

Change to:

A Team Member may change his rifle at any time and may use any of the team rifles that start the match for shooting members plus designated reserves i.e. normally 5 or 10 (4+1 or 8+2) - or such number as the match conditions for the day require. "The rifle" means the actual rifle with which the loaning member is shooting the match or which the reserve(s) has/have brought with him/them and will shoot if called upon. A sighting shot is not permitted if the alteration is made after the second sighter of a string: both sighters are available if the change is made between distances.

This rule is only applicable to team matches with official reserves.

In all other local SABU matches the current SABU rule will apply i.e.

A member of a team may change his rifle at any time, subject to Rules FC6.12 and FC8.1, but as a consequence may not fire any extra sighting shots. A team may NOT substitute the shooter concerned by a reserve. No extension will be given to a team's allotted time for the time taken to change a rifle.

Current SABU rule, ET 3.7

For practices, this may be anything that the particular ET system is capable of displaying and as agreed between the organisers and shooters. For competitions, the simple ('KISS') display version must be used until further notice, by which the following is indicated:

- Position of the 'new' shot only
- Value of the 'new' shot
- Position only of a second shot registered by the target during the delay period as defined in rule ET3.8 below. (According to the latest manufacturer's information, this will be done by means of a flashing 'spotter'.)
- On smaller target faces also shown on the display, e.g. at the bottom, the position of the most recent shots on at least two targets to the left and two targets to the right of the competitor's target. (If possible, more will be ideal.)
- The velocity at which the bullet of the most recent shot fired reached the target may be displayed and is not regarded as an infringement of SABU Rule 10.2.3.2's chronograph part (and similar for F Class).

Change to:

For practices, this may be anything that the particular ET system is capable of displaying and as agreed between the organisers and shooters. For competitions, the simple ('KISS') display version must be used until further notice, by which the following is indicated:

- Position of the 'new' shot only
- Value of the 'new' shot
- Position only of a second shot registered by the target during the delay period as defined in rule ET3.8 below. (According to the latest manufacturer's information, this will be done by means of a flashing 'spotter'.)
- On smaller target faces also shown on the display, e.g. at the bottom, the position of the most recent shots on at least two targets to the left and two targets to the right of the competitor's target. (If possible, more will be ideal.)

The capability to display an indication of the velocity remaining when the bullet strikes the target may be switched on at the organiser's absolute discretion on targets in use for competition provided firstly it is nominally made available on all targets and secondly that no complaint or protest whatsoever will be entertained regarding the accuracy of the indication provided nor as to its absence on any particular target(s).

