

AUSTRALIAN SKEET SHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting

Friday 4th April 2025

WACTA Shooting Centre, Whiteman Park, WA

Committee Present:

David Muir (Vice President)
Shane Bennett
Wayne Petersen
Brian Clarke

Apologies:

Nigel Hughes (President)
Paul Johnston (Secretary)
Leonie Johnston (Treasurer)
Lorraine Hughes (Minutes)
Jacqueline Durham
Katrina Santas
John Rodden

Minutes of the last meeting held on 3rd March 2024

Minutes Acceptance – Nominated as correct by Shane Bennett; seconded Brian Clarke.

Financial Statement was presented

funds at bank \$15,027.00.

Financial Statement accepted by Brian Clarke; seconded by Greg Schweikert

Presidents Report:

President's Report for the AGM of ASSA, The Australia Skeet Shooters Association for 2024

Delivered by Vice President: Dave Muir in the President's Absence

Introduction

Good afternoon and thank you to everyone for attending this year's Annual General Meeting of the ASSA the Australian Skeet Shooters Association. It is my honour (?) to stand in for the President today and present the report on his behalf.

Before we begin, I'd like to take a moment to express my sincere thanks to the **Western Australian Gun Club** for allowing us the use of their facilities for this AGM. I'd also like to extend our gratitude to the **ACTA** for continuing to work so closely with us and combine our efforts into growing the sport of skeet shooting here in Australia.

Committee Acknowledgment

As always, I would like to remind everyone that the **ASSA Committee** is made up entirely of volunteers. Nobody involved in the committee takes a single cent for anything they do for the association and the sport. These individuals dedicate their time and effort to ensuring the success of our association and the sport we all love. Their commitment is truly appreciated, and we could not function without their invaluable contributions.

I would like to welcome on board our new members this year. I thank them for their support and commitment and wish them all the best. The committee and association grows from strength to strength.

Key Achievements and Initiatives

Now, let's move on to the highlights of 2024/2025.

Membership

Membership Growth - we saw a significant increase in membership throughout the year and we celebrated the milestone of **150 members**. This is a testament to the hard work of the committee and to the growth of skeet shooting in Australia, and we look forward to welcoming even more members into the fold. As of today, we have **147** members, so we are on track to beat last year's record. Thank you to all of you who have come onboard or have rejoined and if you are not a member, we do encourage you to join up and help us. (go online or speak to any of us here to help you join) Remember, we are the voice of skeet shooting for the **ACTA**, and your support helps strengthen this voice and ensure the needs of we skeet shooters are heard.

Life Memberships - A reminder that **life membership** is limited to **three people per year**, and we're pleased to announce that all three for this year have been subscribed. One life membership has already been taken for **2026**, and we encourage those interested to submit their nominations as early as possible. Details are on our website.

SUPPORTING THE ACTA

The **ACTA** is the governing body for skeet shooting in Australia and the **ASSA** exists to support the **ACTA** by listening and communicating the needs and desires for the skeet shooters and the development of the sport.

Junior Development Program

Our **Junior Development Program**, in collaboration with **ACTA** and **ASSA**, has been a great success. We were able to allocate **\$750 to the \$1500** total to support young shooters,

and it is our intention to continue with this incentive. Our thanks to the ACTA for contributing the additional \$750 towards this program.

Hall of Fame Committee

We are also proud to announce that **Nigel Hughes** and **Shane Bennett**, continued their hard work as the official members of **ACTA Hall of Fame sub-committee**. The committee is working on important projects, including the development of criteria for female inclusion in the Hall of Fame, the development of the **ISSF Hall of Fame**, recognition of sub-gauge achievements and much, much more. As mentioned last year, we've made significant progress with the physical display at the **ACTA's 'Range' facility in Wagga, Wagga** and we plan to have the entire project completed ready for the 2026 Nationals.

Voice Release System Update

After years of challenges, the ASSA has been in active discussions with **ACTA** regarding the **voice release system**. We are very pleased to report that a new system will be implemented at the **Skeet Nationals in Wagga in 2026**. This marks a major milestone in improving the overall competition experience for our members and shooters.

Target selection and development of the National Grounds

We are anticipating involvement in (and support to the ACTA) with the process of the target selection for the 2026 Nationals and beyond. This forms part of a wider plan to for the development of the national grounds involving several improvements across a broad spectrum, something we are working closely together on.

We will keep you all advised of developments.

Through collaborative efforts, we've been able to achieve great things, and we're excited to continue working with ACTA in the coming years to provide the very best National Skeet grounds and equipment that we could possibly have.

Providers of Skeet Information

During the last 12 months we have assisted our members (and non-members) with a wide range of questions covering items such as sub-gauge tube regulations and requirements for this years skeet nationals in WA, rules and guidelines for travelling overseas, and a number of rules and team questions as well as much, much more.

Our very own **Shane Bennett** has also this year qualified for entry into the Hall of Fame, and he also was appointed by the ACTA as a rules supervisor – congratulations Shane on two tremendous achievements!

Sponsored Handicap Events

In 2024, we proudly sponsored **9 handicap events** across the country, each lasting two days. These events were a great success and helped increase participation and engagement in our sport and raised the profile of the ASSA. We will continue to sponsor and support such initiatives.

Development of Sub-Gauge Shoots

We continued to develop and promote participation in the **sub-gauge** events, by offering the use of **Briley tubes**. These are available for both **state and national shoots**. This offers more opportunities for shooters to participate in different gauges and experience the joy of sub gauge competition without a large initial outlay. This helps to further develop their skills and increase participation in these events. Our thanks to Mialls' gun shop for their generosity in supplying these.

Website Improvements

Our **website** has become THE most complete source of information for historical statistics, upcoming events, rules and general information. Our thanks and appreciation goes to **Shane Bennet** who spends countless hours collating information and maintaining the data.

It is rewarding to note that as a result of this we are the 'go to' source for the ACTA and it is this data that helps to determine the events and awards that we recognise and celebrate as part of the hall of fame.

Our thanks to our trade sponsors who help with banner advertisements on our website namely: Bronze Wing Australia. On Target sporting arms, Clay and Hunt, Mialls' Gun Shop and Perazzi. Your support is greatly appreciated.

2024 12g Nationals

The **2024 12g Nationals** saw some fantastic competition, and we were pleased to offer the opportunity for shooters to **win back their nomination costs**– but only if they are present at the prize-giving. This initiative has been a big hit and we plan to continue this tradition going forward.

Graded High Guns at State Events

We continued to offer a **\$100 prize** for the **Graded High Guns** at state events. Once again this is a great opportunity for members to win more than double their annual membership back.

Merchandising and Fundraising

Our **merchandising** efforts have gone very well this year. The sale of **T-shirts, caps, and umbrellas** has been a great success, and I'd like to take a moment to acknowledge the anonymous sponsor who generously provided the funds for us to purchase these items. Their support has made this possible, and we are grateful for their contribution to our association.

It is truly invigorating and rewarding to see shooters out there wearing our colours and raising awareness. There was great representation at the world championships in San Antonio with members wearing the green and gold being easily spotted across the layouts.

Conclusion and Outlook

In conclusion, 2024/2025 has been a year of growth, progress, and increased collaboration. We've had a great year, but there is always more work to be done. As we look ahead to 2025, we will continue to focus on our **membership growth, youth development**, and improving our **facilities and events**. There is a lot to be excited about, and I know that together, we will continue to build a strong and successful future for ASSA to support the ACTA in development in the sport of skeet shooting in Australia.

Thank you again to everyone for your dedication and participation. If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to reach out to any member of the committee. We're here to serve you and your input is always valued.

Thank you, and let's look forward to another successful year for ASSA!

[End of Report]

Election of Members

1. Nigel Hughes – President
2. David Muir – Vice President
3. Paul Johnston – Secretary
4. Leonie Johnston – Treasurer
5. Brian Clarke – committee member
6. Shane Bennett – committee member
7. Wayne Peterson – committee member
8. Paul Pianezola - committee member
9. John Rodden – Committee member
10. Karl Bowen – Committee member
- Johnnie Dichiera – Committee member
11. Matthew Dwyer – Committee member

The floor was opened for any general questions:

- Benn Baker raised the issue of trophies for the Nationals not being available in Perth. The meeting was advised by Mal Dyson that the trophies and their carrying containers have become damaged and can no longer be safely transported from ACTA Head Quarters.

- Matt De Paoli asked about the progress with targets; will Skeet targets be different to DTL targets. Matt was advised by Wayne Petersen that target testing trials will be carried out this year between ASSA and ACTA at Wagga. Mal Dyson confirmed this.
- Matt De Paoli further enquired about full availability of the BRB system by the next Nationals.
- Shane Bennett advised the BRB system will get a full run at the NSW Championships in '25.
- John Pethybridge enquired about meeting reports and financials being available on the ASSA website. Shane Bennett advised they will be put on.
- John Fordyce enquired about conclusion of the issue of women's induction into the Skeet Hall of Fame. Wayne Petersen advised there were some misunderstanding on this issue and it remains to be resolved.
- Matt De Paoli raised the issue of sub gauges being included in HOF points. Shane Bennett advised this matter was in discussion with the ACTA.
- George Papachristoforos asked what the ASSA was doing to promote juniors. In a mixed response it was generally agreed that juniors need to be recruited and developed at club level as neither the ACTA nor the ASSA have the reach or resources to achieve this. Michael Kruger-Davis opined that clubs need to influence local schools to be involved. This matter remained open ended; there appeared to be no obvious [short-term](#) resolution primarily due to high costs of developing juniors.
- Panos Papachristoforos opined that not enough clubs have regular skeet competitions. [Also that the growth of the sport must be driven from the top down.](#)
- Johnnie Dichiera opined that there is a tendency for the interested beginners and "avagoes" to be introduced to DTL and not Skeet. It is the observation of this author that DTL is a much easier pathway to the Sport than Skeet.
- As a final statement Shane Bennett said Skeet shooters need to internally focus on growing the sport. There is not enough drive from the skeet shooting community.