

SAFGA "STATE BOARD"

News Bulletin



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FIELD AND GAME

*"The wild life of today is not ours to dispose of
as we please. We have it in trust. We must
account for it to those who come after."
King George vi*

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5th April 2025

2025 FITASC Oceania Sporting Championships



The FITASC logo is a circular emblem with a globe in the center, crossed by two rifles. The text "FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE" is at the top, "FITASC" is at the bottom, and "FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE" is also written around the globe.

**2025 FITASC OCEANIA
SPORTING CHAMPIONSHIP**
28TH – 30TH MARCH
Beretta World Cup event and final of the Oceania Cup

The Rotorua Rod & Gun Club logo is a circular emblem with a green border. Inside, there is a white silhouette of a person in a crouched position, possibly a hunter or a target. The text "ROTORUA" is at the top and "ROD & GUN CLUB" is at the bottom.

The Beretta logo is a circular emblem with a green border. Inside, there is a white silhouette of a person in a crouched position, possibly a hunter or a target. The text "BERETTA" is at the bottom.



Rotorua, Situated 230 kms South or 2.5 hours' drive South of Auckland on the North Island of New Zealand. The town sets its namesake lake on New Zealand's North Island, is renowned for its geothermal activity and Maori culture. In Te Puia's Whakarewarewa Valley, there are bubbling mud pools and the 30m-tall Pohutu Geyser, which erupts many times daily. It's also home to a living Maori village and the New Zealand Maori Arts and Crafts Institute, with traditional wood carving and weaving schools.

Population: Approx 80,000

Elevation: 280 m

The city lays on the southern shores of Lake Rotorua. Rotorua is unusual among New Zealand cities in being neither a port nor originally a farm service centre. Rotorua was built in the early 1880s by the government, as a town for tourists visiting the 'hot lakes'. It was laid out on the Pukeroa–Oruawhata block, land leased from Ngāti Whakaue near the Māori lakeside settlement of Ōhinemutu.

This arrangement with the tribal owners broke down, and the government became the sole owner in 1888. The arrival of the railway in 1894 spurred growth. The government developed a European-style spa with ornamental gardens, and bathing and therapeutic facilities. After the Second World War, growth was also fostered by forest, farm and hydroelectricity development.

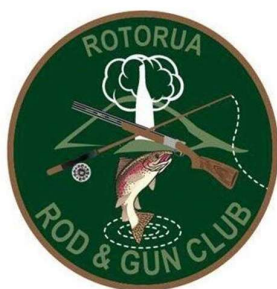
Shoot Forecast

Weather conditions: 3 Day Event



During the 3 day event it will be sunny with a slight overcast top temperature 22'C during each day and between 10'C - 11'C most mornings seemed a little fresh with some fog about & clearing by mid-morning, overnight low at night making it near perfect shooting conditions.

Club History



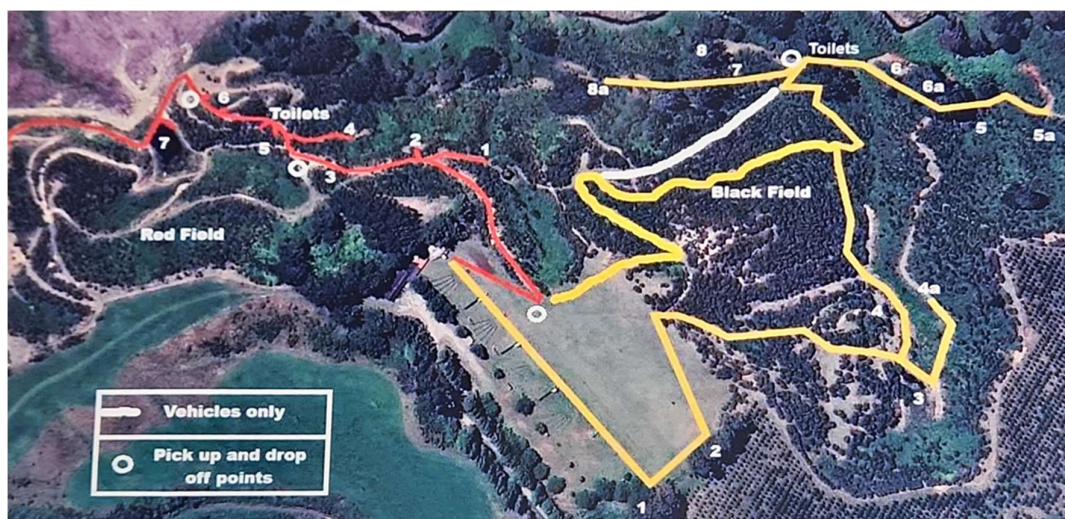
Rotorua Rod and Gun Club founded in 1917 has been a community pillar for like-minded shooters and anglers to gather and compete in Clay Target shooting. Our top fields cater for DTL, Skeet, Compak and English Sporting. This is accompanied by **world class sporting grounds** spanning valleys throughout Manuka plantings. New shooters are encouraged, come along and try your hand during one of our Wednesday night practice shoots.

Shooting Course

Rotorua Rod & Gun Club only 10 minutes' drive from the city, held practice for all competitors leading up to the event, on offering there were two practice 5 stand layouts. One surrounded by huge grandfather pine trees with most targets crossing well below your stand level & being shot at from above. The other was a breath taking standing on the very edge of a hill face overlooking a large valley with pine plantation in the distance. Targets were challenging, while a midi target was driven quite hard down the hill from trap number 8 which required quite a lot of lead including gun speed, most shooters seemed to have enjoyed the practice session very much.

Shooting Course Layout for Competition

There were 8 layouts of 25 Targets per course split between to areas, Red & Black Field. The elevations at the club situated 400 metres above sea level with traps scattered mostly along hill side covered by high dense lush green vegetation, surround by tall aged pine trees all the way down to ponds and running streams setting a pictures setting for the event. Transportation was on offer to take and bring back competitors from the range layouts.



Shooting Event Sponsors

A very big thank you to the sponsors for supporting the event – enjoyed by all.



Australian National Team Members

SPORTING CLAYS AUSTRALIA TEAM		
OPEN	JUNIORS	VETERAN
Chris Brown	Nate Palubiski	Robert Passarin
Michael Baldwin	Jed Leadbitter	Russell Pigdon
Nick Guerra	Jimmy Papaioannou	Phil Stowe
Robert Hall		
LADIES	SENIOR	
Bianca Norris	Terry Preston	
Emalene Munro	Alan Marden	
Brooke Tangey	Kevin Haskins	

SPORTING CLAYS AUSTRALIA



36th FITASC Oceania Sporting Clays Championships – Rotorua New Zealand

Follow the team score live on <https://teamscores.rrgc.co.nz/>

Day 1 Thursday 27th March 2025 (Welcome and Opening Ceremony)

Warm welcoming by Rotorua Rod and Gun Club. The weather conditions were fine, most of the competitors were there - very few stuck on delayed flights and unable to attend the opening festivities. On hand there were two practice 5 stand layouts with unbelievable scenery shooting from mountain tops. Opening ceremony went as can be expected, representations from Tahiti, New Caledonia, Australia & New Zealand were part of the welcoming march to the centre stage.

Official dignitaries:

Opening speech from club representatives & official welcome

Official welcoming to Country and Blessing by a traditional Maori elder

Ray McFarlane FITASC Oceania representative was present for official duties & welcoming competitors

Local MP Todd McClay was present to offer shooters support

Official National Anthems followed by march of each National Teams Competitors

Day 2 - Friday 28th March 2025 (Day 1 of 36th FITASC Oceania Sporting Championships)

The morning began with a touch of fog, though it posed no significant issues for the competition. **FITASC Oceania** representative **Ray McFarlane** had inspected the course on Thursday and gave it the green light for action.

Before the event commenced, a **local Māori Elder** offered their blessing and best wishes to the event, setting a respectful and meaningful tone. By **9:00 AM**, the morning officially kicked off with the traditional sounds of **shotgun blasts against clay targets**.

Nearly **200 competitors** took to the course, battling the challenging conditions. Looking at the scores, the **BLACK Course** proved to be particularly tough, while the **RED Course** produced stronger results.

The weather improved as the day progressed, with overcast skies and minimal wind that had little effect on the targets. Only **three perfect 25s** were recorded, and **top honours for the day** went to **Chris Brown**, who posted an impressive **69/75**.

The **Rod & Gun Club** did a fantastic job ensuring smooth operations—managing shuttles for competitors, keeping clay target machines stocked, and overseeing the course. Meanwhile, back at the clubhouse, the **nominations team** worked efficiently, and staff ensured hot food was readily available.

A huge well done to everyone involved in making Day 1 of target shooting a success.

Day 3 - Saturday 29th March 2025 (Day 2 of 36th FITASC Oceania Sporting Championships)

The second day of championships began with a crisp bite in the air, keeping the jumpers on early. However, by mid-morning the fog cleared and the conditions turned near perfect for shooting.

Our teams fought hard, though they slipped slightly in the standings. With just one day to go, the **Veteran Team** remains right on the heels of their competitors, keeping hopes alive for a strong finish.

As the day progressed, the highlight event took centre stage—an **almighty Snooker Shooting Match**. Over **100 spectators** grabbed their beverages, settled in, and watched as some of the best took on the challenge. The competition was open to **all ages**, making for a thrilling showdown.

The atmosphere was electric—**music pumping, fans cheering, and live commentary adding to the excitement**. The event wrapped up with the **top eight shooters advancing to the elimination round**, including an impressive **three Juniors**—all representing Australia.

After a series of intense **shoot-offs between the boys and the men**, it was **congratulations to Brian Deadman of New Zealand**, who emerged victorious in the **Snooker event**.


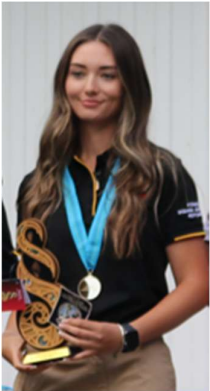


Another incredible day of competition—bring on the final showdown!


Day 4 - Sunday 30th March 2025 (Final day of 36th FITASC Oceania Sporting Championships)

The final day of competition brought another beautiful day with **scattered clouds and perfect shooting conditions**. There were six possible 25/25 scores recorded including one from the winner of the 2025 FITASC Oceania Sporting Champion, Congratulations **“Blake Nankervis”**

Our teams delivered outstanding performances, securing **GOLD** in **Open, Ladies and Juniors**, and with the **Seniors, Veterans** earning a well-fought **Silver**. The event was **well-organised and greatly appreciated by all** in attendance.

Oceania Results – Top 10

Name	Grade	Category	Total	
Blake Nankervis	AA	Man	183	
Chris Brown	AA	Man	180	
Nicholas Guerra	AA	Man	175	
Brian Deadman	AA	Man	174	
Geoff Wells	AA	Man	170	
Thomas Bilney	AA	Man	169	
William Tannock	AA	Man	167	
Michael Baldwin	AA	Man	167	
Cameron Kivinen	AA	Man	167	
Kade Wurster	AA	Man	166	
Bianca Norris	A	Lady	157	
Emalene Munro	A	Lady	147	
Ashling Welch	A	Lady	147	
Brooke Tangey	A	Lady	142	
Janette Densley	A	Lady	141	
Tarsh Pescini	B	Lady	139	
Emily Walker	A	Lady	130	
Janelle Craig	B	Lady	129	
Andrea Barrowman	B	Lady	122	
Gaye Shale	A	Lady	116	
Nate Palubiski	AA	Junior	172	
Hayden Lourie	AA	Junior	153	
Phineas McBurnie	A	Junior	152	
Jed Leadbitter	A	Junior	151	
Cade McLachlan	A	Junior	144	
Jimmy Papaioannou	A	Junior	141	
Cohen Newton	A	Junior	127	
Jack Charlton	B	Junior	126	
Maximus Pratt	C	Junior	91	
Adam Green	AA	Senior	158	
Mark Vessey	AA	Senior	158	
Peter Goodwin	AA	Senior	155	
Terry Preston	A	Senior	155	
Karl Kivinen	A	Senior	152	
Mike Steedman	A	Senior	151	
Paul Crittenden	AA	Senior	150	
Aaron Goodchild	AA	Senior	147	
Glenn Rastrick	AA	Senior	146	
Kevin Haskins	A	Senior	142	
Andrew Welch	A	Senior	142	

Rob Passarin	A	Veteran	154	
Paul Hedwig	A	Veteran	150	
Rod Bryant	AA	Veteran	148	
Les Hoffman	AA	Veteran	145	
Russell Pigdon	A	Veteran	140	
Robert Sturzaker	B	Veteran	140	
Philip Stowe	AA	Veteran	138	
Tony Truss	A	Veteran	137	
Phil Brown	A	Veteran	135	
Des Coe	A	Veteran	135	
Ernie Scheidl	A	Veteran	134	

Team Championship Results

Team	Gold	Score	Silver	Score
Open Grade	Australia	687	New Zealand	672
Ladies	Australia	446	New Zealand	416
Juniors	Australia	464	New Zealand	424
Seniors	New Zealand	471	Australia	428
Veterans	New Zealand	443	Australia	432

Championship Podium finishes from SA members

Jimmy Papaioannou	Gold Medal Junior Team Event		
	6th in Juniors Grade		
Janette Densley	5th in Ladies Grade		

Congratulations to Our South Australian Representatives

A big **congratulations** to **Jimmy Papaioannou** and **Janette Densley**—two dedicated South Australian members who made the effort to **travel overseas to New Zealand** to represent at the **FITASC Oceania Championships**.

Your commitment to the sport and willingness to go the extra mile (literally!) to compete at international level is truly commendable. Well done on representing both **South Australia and Sporting Clays Australia** with pride!

We look forward to seeing your continued success on the range. 🙌

Presentations & Acknowledgements

Hon Nicole McKee MP



Hon Nicole McKee is the Minister for Courts and the Associate Minister of Justice (Firearms), addressed the competitors, families, and spectators, congratulating everyone on a **successfully run event**. She acknowledged the challenges involved in **travelling with firearms** and expressed her support for ongoing efforts to streamline the **newly introduced Firearms Act**. Nicole encouraged members from **Australia and New Zealand** to collaborate on submissions aimed at improving travel approval processes with firearm regulations and other matters.

Snooker Tournament

The **Snooker Event** winner, **Brian Deadman of New Zealand**, was formally awarded his prize, and further **awards** were presented across all grades. Winners took home beautifully **hand-carved New Zealand wooden trophies**—a true keepsake of the event.



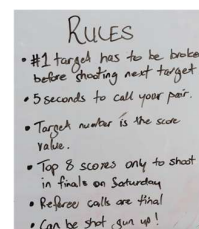
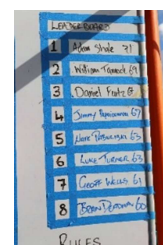
The **Snooker Event** drew a strong crowd of eager competitors looking for a bit of fun and high-stakes excitement.

The rules - simple, seven fixed pairs and five pairs of your choice and the aim, **Make the Right Choice**.

Among the standout performances were **three juniors** who impressively secured spots in the **final eight**, showcasing the depth of emerging talent.

Then came the moment everyone was waiting for—the **elimination knockout round**. The atmosphere intensified as shooters stepped up, knowing each shot could be the difference between advancing or going home.

With **harder targets** in play and **points crucial**, the pressure was well and truly on. The crowd leaned in, the tension was electric... and then—**GAME ON!**



Cheers erupted, music was pumping and the battle for snooker supremacy was underway. An unforgettable moment in the championships, blending skill, nerves, and pure shooting entertainment.

A memorable event that brought the community together and highlighted everything great about the sport.



FITASC Oceania Delegate Ray McFarlane



On behalf of **FITASC**, **Oceania Delegate Ray McFarlane** extended gratitude to the **Rotorua Rod and Gun Club** for their **exceptional hospitality and organisation**. He conveyed **FITASC President Jean-Francois Palinkas** appreciation from France, acknowledging the **top-tier targets, smooth event execution, and heartfelt welcome from the native community**. Gold Silver and Bronze medals and prizes were awarded to the winners.

A **huge congratulations** to all the winners and competitors for making this an unforgettable event!

Sporting Clays Australia Team Manager, Andrew Smedley



While **Andrew Smedley**, the newly appointed **Sporting Clays Australia Team Manager**, was unable to attend in person due to the timing of his appointment, his presence was certainly felt throughout the event.

Many in the shooting community will recognise **Andrew and his wife, Nadene Smedley**, from **All Scope Clay Target & Castellani Australia**. Their ongoing support for the industry, from major championships to club events, is well known—especially for their range of **premium shooting apparel, and other essential accessories** that help competitors **look and perform at their best** on the range. Despite not being on-site, Andrew played a **vital role behind the scenes**, actively supporting the **Australian Team**. He was instrumental in keeping the **Sporting Clays Australia Facebook page** updated with the latest photos, scores, and event highlights—ensuring those closely following the competition from afar remained engaged and informed.

A huge **thank you to Andrew** for his dedication and contributions, proving that even from a distance, his commitment to the sport and its competitors remains unwavering!

Final Thoughts

Well done to all! 🎯 🏆 🙌

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Keeping  informed

This *News Bulletin* brought to you by the SAFGA State Board.