

# Elevation is science, windage is voodoo

By Charl Gous



A recent flurry of sports-shooting events has been a shooter's delight – when event organisers were given the green light to host sports-shooting competitions, ELR fanatics quickly came out of hibernation to spend time behind their beloved rifles.

Saturday 7 November marked the final Send IT ELR Shooting event for the 2020 calendar. Once again, a major cold front was approaching Cape Town that would add complexity to what was expected to be a sunny summer day. The weather will always be the weather – ultimately it is the same for all throughout the match.

In these conditions (that we have become all too familiar with here in Cape Town), shooters need to approach each stage and attempt it with the utmost attention to detail. Gusting winds and terrible weather present an opportunity for shooters to materially move up the score board with just a couple more successful impact shots. Experienced shooters will study the scenery – watching treetops, bushes, grass and wind flags in the distance to try and estimate the impact and directional changes of the wind.

Looking through the rifle's optics limits the shooter's field of view. As the

shooter prepares for the shot, the spotter needs to be particularly aware of the broader landscape and clearly communicate with the shooter all that is being observed. Did the wind just change direction? Are you feeling a stronger gust or breeze on your face at the firing line than before? What is the mirage teaching you about the conditions in the distance? Should you add or deduct windage from your predetermined firing solution? It is essential for the shooter and spotter to work as a team and trust each other's judgement.

For the most part, atmospheric conditions can only be measured at the point of fire; the balance is up to feel. Ultimately, it remains a guessing game – but some certainly guess better than others. What is important is to experience difficult weather conditions and to learn from it, and not just shoot on those lovely mild days that make you feel like a master rifleman. Attending a match has the further benefit of forcing a shooter to be decisive with calls to make the shot count where needed – not just plinking at far targets until a hit is eventually recorded.

### Match day and results

We were expecting gale-force winds, and the forecast was spot on. The first shots were fired in a 20-mph wind that later escalated to 25 to 35 mph. The wind constantly blew throughout the day, mostly from a 9'o clock direction, gusting strongly at



## 7 NOVEMBER 2020

### Results : All

Distance in meter

Nr.	Shooter	Team	Caliber	Range 1			Range 2			Range 3			Range 4			TOTAL
				1A	1B	1C	2A	2B	2C	3A	3B	3C	4A	4B	4C	
1	Charl Gous	Team Boetas	375 ST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	22 002
2	Bernard Eksteen	WEEKEND WARRIORS	375 CT	1	-	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	20 333
3	Wayne Bird	ICBM	300 WM	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	15 759
4	Pieter Eksteen	WEEKEND WARRIORS	300 NMI	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	14 199
5	Andre Huisamen	Cordite Junkies	.338 RUM	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	14 035
6	Thinus van Zyl	Cortinas	300 WSM	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	13 859
7	DJ Van Zyl	Team Avo's	338 AI	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	13 176
8	Michael Hitchcock	Team Boetas	338 LM AI	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	12 997
9	Francois du Toit	Team Young Guns	7mm SAUM	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	11 516
10	Riaan Elhers	GunAffair	300 WM	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	10 844
11	Ivan Fourie	3% Tactical	300 WM	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	10 648
12	Schalk Jacobs	APW	338 LM	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	10 365
13	Louis van Zyl	H208	300 WSM	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	9 251
14	Corne van der Vyfer	Cortinas	300 WSM	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	9 240
15	Danie du Preez	Team Avo's	37 XC	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8 340
16	Kallie Fernhout	GunAffair	300 WM	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	7 054
17	Bernard Kotze	3% Tactical	338 LM	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	6 911
18	Nico Louw	Team Hornady	7mm SAUM	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	5 813
19	Hendrie Brink	Team Hornady	338 LM	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	5 703
20	Herman Maree	Boggom & Voertsek	.260 Rem	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5 169
21	Ernst Heydenrych	BWV	300 NM	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 559
22	Gerhard Vosloo	Cordite Junkies	280 Ackley Imp	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 074
23	Johann van Zyl	H208	300 WSM	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4 056
24	Gareth Holtman	Buffalo Boys	300 WSM	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3 628
25	Hano Husselman	Team Young Guns	338 LM	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3 531
26	Pieter Malan	APW	7-300WM	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3 304
27	Barend Verster	Boggom & Voertsek	7mm Practical	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3 301
28	Trevern Haasbroek	Yesterday's Hero's	338 LM	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2 064
29	Jan Rabie	ICBM	300 WM	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 887
30	Renè Pesch	EUROOPTIC	375 CT	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 467
31	Thinus Geldenhuys	BWV	375 CT	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 349
32	Walter Capes	Yesterday's Hero's	300 WM	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 258
33	John Edwards	EUROOPTIC	338 LM	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34	Greg Holtman	Buffalo Boys	300 WSM	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

varying speeds. The weather made shooting extremely difficult and this was reflected in the scores.

There are always a couple of shooters who stand out. This time it was Wayne Bird, who achieved an overall third place in the individual rankings. He made use of a factory Remington Sendero chambered in 300

Winchester Magnum, a remarkable achievement given the challenging conditions. Charl Gous managed 1<sup>st</sup> place individual, closely followed by Bernard Eksteen in 2<sup>nd</sup> place with his beautiful 375 Cheytac.

Charl Gous, with the assistance of Michael Hitchcock (8<sup>th</sup> placed individual), managed 1<sup>st</sup> place in the





# Individual Results & Equipment

Nr.	Shooter	Team	TOTAL	Hit %	Caliber	Action Mfr.	Trigger Mfr.	Barrel Mfr.	Barrel twist (1 in x)	Barrel length (inch)	Stock Mfr.	Bullet Mfr.	Bullet weight (grain)	Scope	Magnification	Bipod Mfr.
1	Charl Gous	Team Boetas	22002	43%	375 ST	Barnard	Barnard	Krieger	10	32	Ballistic Beast	Ballistic Beast	365	Nightforce ATACR	5-25	Phoenix
2	Bernard Eksteen	WEEKEND WARRIORS	20333	39%	375 CT	Victrix	Trigger Tech	Walther	10	30	Victrix	Peregrine	350	Nightforce ATACR	5-25	Phoenix
3	Wayne Bird	ICBM	15759	29%	300 WM	Remington	Timney Elite	Remington	10	26	HS Precision	Berger Hybrid Target	215	Vortex PST FFP	5-25	Harris S-BRM
4	Pieter Eksteen	WEEKEND WARRIORS	14199	29%	300 NMI	Barnard	Barnard	Walther	9	30	Custom	Hornady A-Tip	230	Nightforce ATACR	5-25	Phoenix
5	Andre Huisamen	Cordite Junkies	14035	25%	338 RUM	Howa	Howa	Pac-nor	10	31	Smoking Guns	Peregrine	275	Bushnell/DMR	3.5-21	Atlas
6	Thinus van Zyl	Cortinas	13859	29%	300 WSM	Kelbly	Jewell	Hart	10	30	McMillan	Berger Hybrid	215	S&B PM11	5-25	Atlas
7	DJ Van Zyl	Team Avo's	13176	25%	338 LM AI	RSA	RSA	Krieger	10	30	Custom	Hornady	285	Nightforce ATACR	5-25	RW Basson
8	Michael Hitchcock	Team Boetas	12997	25%	338 LM AI	Surgeon	Jewell	Krieger	9.3	32	Ballistic Beast	Berger	300	Nightforce ATACR	5-25	Atlas
9	Francois du Toit	Team Young Guns	11516	21%	7mm SAUM	Sabatti	Sabatti	Sabatti	8.25	28	Sabatti	Sierra Matchking	183	Nightforce ATACR	5-25	phoenix
10	Riaan Elhers	GunAffair	10844	18%	300 WM	TRG	TRG	Krieger	10	30	TRG	Berger	230	Leupold	5-25x56	Phoenix
11	Ivan Fourie	3% Tactical	10648	21%	300 WM	Remington	Bix & Andy	Factory	10	26	MDT ESS	Hornady ELD-M	225	Vortex Razor	4.5-27x56	Phoenix
12	Schalk Jacobs	APW	10365	21%	338 LM	Sako	Sako	Sako	10	27	KRG - Whiskey III	Berger - OTM Tactical	300	Vortex	4.5-27	Accutac - HD 50
13	Louis van Zyl	H208	9251	18%	300 WSM	RSA	Davis	Musgrave	9	31.5	Custom	Berger Hybrid	215	Nightforce ATACR	5-25	Custom
14	Corne van der Vyfer	Cortinas	9240	18%	300 WSM	Kelbly	Jewell	Hart	10	30	McMillan	Berger Hybrid	215	S&B PM11	5x25	Atlas
15	Danie du Preez	Team Avo's	8340	14%	37 XC	Tubb	Tubb T2T	Schneider	9	33	Tubb	Warner Tool Co Flatline	361	Nightforce ATACR	5-25	Tubb
16	Kallie Fernhout	GunAffair	7054	14%	300 WM	TRG	TRG	Krieger	10	30	TRG	Berger	230	Schmidt & Bender	5-25x56	Phoenix
17	Bernard Kotze	3% Tactical	6911	14%	338 LM	SAKO TRG	SAKO TRG	SAKO TRG	10	27	SAKO TRG	BERGER	300	Nightforce ATACR	5-25x56	ATLAS
18	Nico Louw	Team Hornady	5813	11%	7mm SAUM	Sabatti	Sabatti	Sabatti	8.25	28	Sabatti	Sierra matchking	183	Nightforce	5-25x56	Phoenix type
19	Hendrie Brink	Team Hornady	5703	11%	338 LM	Ruger	Ruger	Ruger	9.35	26	Ruger	Hornady	285	Vortex Razor	4.5-27x56	UTG
20	Herman Maree	Boggom & Voertsek	5169	11%	260 Rem	Sako	Sako	Sako	8	26	Sako	Hornady ELD-M	147	Vortex Razor	5-27x56	Custom
21	Ernst Heydenrych	BWV	4559	11%	300 NM	Defiance	Bix & Andy	Bartlein	10	30	Accuracy International	Berger VLD Hybrid	230	Vortex	4.5-27x56	Atlas
22	Gerhard Vosloo	Cordite Junkies	4074	11%	280 Ackley Imp	Remington	TriggerTech	Lothar Walther	9	27	Bobby Hart	Hornady ELD-M	180	Delta Stryker	4.5-30x56	Harris
23	Johann van Zyl	H208	4056	7%	300 WSM	RSA	Bold	Musgrave	9	32	J van Niekerk	Berger	215	Nightforce	5-25	Custom
24	Gareth Holtman	Buffalo Boys	3628	7%	300 WSM	Remington	Bix & Andy	Remington	10	26	Bobby Hart	Peregrine Range Master	186	March D60v52TM	10-60	Atlas BT46
25	Hano Husselman	Team Young Guns	3531	7%	338 LM	Ruger	Ruger	Ruger	9.35	26	Ruger	Hornady	285	Vortex Razor	4.5-27x56	UTG
26	Pieter Malan	APW	3304	7%	7-300WM	Stiller Tac300	Bix'n Andy	Bartlein	8	26	MDT	Berger	195	Vortex Razor GenII	4.5-27x56	MDT CKYEPOD
27	Barend Verster	Boggom & Voertsek	3301	7%	7mm Practical	Spanish Mauser	Timney	Krieger	7.5	31	JC van Niekerk	Perregrine GRM	177	Nightforce ATAR	5-25	Custom
28	Trevern Haasbroek	Yesterday's Hero's	2064	4%	338 LM	Sako	Sako	Sako	10	27.1	Gun Warrior	Peregrine	275	Nightforce	5.5-32 X 56	RW Basson
29	Jan Rabie	ICBM	1887	4%	300 WM	Remington	Jewell	Remington	10	26	GRS Beserk	Hornady 225gr ELD M	225	Nightforce	8-32	Harris
30	Renè Pesch	EUROOPTIC	1467	4%	375 CT	CADEX	CADEX	CADEX	10	32	CADEX	SIERRA MATCH	350	Schmidt & Bender	3-27	Atlas
31	Thinus Geldenhuys	BWV	1349	4%	375 CT	Victrix	Victrix	Victrix	10	30	Victrix	Perigrine	350	Swarovski	3-18	RW Basson
32	Walter Capes	Yesterday's Hero's	1258	4%	300 WM	Sako	Sako	Sako	11	24.5	Gun Warrior	Berger	185	Vortex	5-25x56	Atlas
33	John Edwards	EUROOPTIC	0	0%	338 LM	Accuracy International	Accuracy International	Accuracy International	9.5	26	Accuracy International	Lapua	250	Revic	3-27	Atlas
34	Greg Holtman	Buffalo Boys	0	0%	300 WSM	Sako A7	Sako A7	Sako A7	11	26	Accuracy International Sako RoughTech Range			Vortex Razor	4.5-27	Atlas BT46

teams division – just a whisker ahead of father-and-son team Weekend Warriors (Bernard & Pieter Eksteen). The final podium in the team's category went to Corné van der Vyfer and Thinus van Zyl, participating as team Cortinas.

This was a year where we witnessed great growth for Send IT ELR Shooting, a year where we continued to invest in additional equipment to make for an even better match experience, and finally a year where we implemented new initiatives and sports-shooting formats. With numerous plans already laid for 2021, next year is bound to be another full year with plenty of shooting.

As a last excursion, the Send IT team will travel to Clarens in the Free State to participate in the King of 1 (KOIM SA) and King of 2 Miles in South Africa (KO2M SA) event hosted by

Impact Xtreme Shooting. DJ van Zyl, founding member of Send IT ELR Shooting, was crowned winner and 'King' at the 2019 match. This year the entire team will head up to the foothills of the spectacular Maluti Mountains to assist him in delivering another incredible performance. Finally, I want to thank the Send IT team who put in countless hours to make this work. You are the core of what we do! 🇿🇦

*Until next time, get ready to ... Send IT!*

Anyone in need of additional information can contact myself, Charl Gous, on 083 4696 181. Be sure to follow us on Facebook and find the link on our page to join the Send IT Telegram group where all communication is posted.

