



Family fun on the dedicated Junior range.

# New friends and familiar faces

By Charl Gous

On the 3rd of September 2022, we hosted the fifth .22 LR ELR Send IT match at PEKS shooting range near Wellington, Western Cape. This was Send IT's second and final rimfire competition for the year. We are delighted to have welcomed a number of new shooters, who travelled up to 500 kilometres, to take part and gain exposure to rimfire ELR (extreme long range). For this event, we had a full house of forty shooters competing in the ELR event and nine youngsters taking on the dedicated junior range. As an event host it is heart-warming to receive interest from fellow firearm enthusiasts that embrace a new shooting discipline with the same enthusiasm as we do.

Rimfire ELR is rapidly evolving and being adopted by numerous sportshooters globally. Event organisers need to be flexible in their approach to developing the sport - adding new dimensions to the course of fire and experimenting and allowing the use of alternative equipment.

On this point - we had two shooters competing with PCP (Precharged Pneumatic) rifles. These were not your old-school break-neck Gecado 27 pellet guns that most grew up with. They arrived with top-end equipment - Impact M3 FX Airguns, firing 40 gr HN Sports Heavy Slugs at 980 fps and topped with Element Nexus optics.

As we discussed their PCP's ballistic capabilities, I discovered that a well-set-up PCP rifle can fire slugs (the projectiles) at a very low extreme spread (less than 5 fps). This is the variance in the speed of the projectile from one shot to another over a given



Charl Gous, match director.





Gerhard Slabbert



Pieter Eksteen



Garth Tucky



PEKS wind flag at 10:21



Wind behaving at 12:53

string of shots. This offers the shooter of a PCP rifle a highly predictable ballistic solution making PCP rifles an attractive option for ELR, relative to rimfire rifles. Rimfire shooters need to contend with a much higher extreme

spread (up to 40 fps) that greatly impacts the calculated flight path of the bullet. Food for thought.

Gerhard Slabbert and Kevin du Toit, making use of PCP rifles, achieved hits all the way out to 393 meters and

performed extremely well. Gerhard was placed 15th overall and managed to hit the challenge gong with his first hit. They are both experienced shooters with advanced ballistic knowledge and are accustomed to taking ELR shots



James Preyser



Riley Ingram



Charl Gous went on to take first place.



Marlize Volschenk



Deon Fabel

with PCP rifles. It was an awesome experience to meet these gents and observe how they approached the match with PCP rifles as well as being exposed to the equipment they utilise and its ballistic capabilities.

**For this match we added a challenge gong to push the limits of .22LR ELR.**

Shooters were given the opportunity to fire 10 shots at a 510 meter target after the match. The individual making the most hits won an awesome bipod sponsored by Helber Rifles Bullets and Innovations. Seven shooters managed to make an impact once, but James Preyser took the honours with two successful hits and went home with a stunning prize. James used a CZ 455 rifle, topped with a Vortex Diamondback optic firing Eley Edge 40 gr ammunition. It is interesting to note, that he required approximately 130

MOA of elevation to hit the target and dialled windage that varied between 15 and 25 MOA. This was a highly rewarding target to hit!

Juniors had the opportunity to engage targets from 58 meters to 236 meters. All this happened under the watchful eye of a dedicated range officer and with the assistance of their parents.

The youngest shooter, 4-year-old Handru Goosen was a delightful little man to meet. Dressed in his favourite camouflage jacket he had a fantastic time shooting with his parents and playing in the sandy areas away from the shooting platforms. The juniors did not disappoint and were able to consistently make hits out to 236 meters.

First-placed junior, Andre Hanekom, managed 27 hits out of 30 shots to take home gold. He is becoming a

regular on the podium and travelled all the way from Clanwilliam to attend the match. Second place was awarded to Riley Ingram that always arrives with plenty of attitude and flair. Newcomer, Walter van der Merwe Jnr, travelled from George to attend the match with his father. He was awarded a solid third place.

Three young men (Nicolaas, Carlo, and Marlo) who, according to them, had outgrown the junior range took on the adults on the ELR range. They delivered competitive results and were placed 19th, 20th, and 28th respectively. They were given smart and practical tog bags sponsored by Quénet's Hunting & Fishing. Well done young men.

For a sport shooting format to be viewed as credible it needs to deliver competitive results and be well



Bernard Eksteen assisting



Rick Jaffe



Loutjie Hanekom with spotter Deon Fabel.



André Volschenk





Walter van der Merwe Jnr.



Youngsters enjoying making new shooting friends.



Carlo Gous now shoots on the adults shooting platforms and no longer on the Junior range.

attended by skilled shooters. Analysing the results and comparing it to previous matches we can clearly see how the scores have improved and how many more frequent hits are being achieved at the 393 meter and 424 meter targets.

As an example, the shooter placed 35th achieved 20 successful impacts and the first placed shooter managed 31 impacts out of 45 shots - a narrow window in my view. Even more interesting is that (at the previous rimfire ELR match - hosted on 12 March 2022) the 4th placed shooter scored a total of 15964 points, a score that would have yielded that same shooter 20th position at the 3rd September match - remarkable progress and an indication of the improvements witnessed at this particular match.

**Studying the results achieved on the two 424-meter targets and the 393-meter target we can conclude the following:**

**Range 1:** target 3 - 424 meters. The target was hit by 19 shooters and a total of 27 successful impacts was recorded.

**Range 2:** target 3 - 393 meters. The target was hit by 28 shooters and a total of 43 successful impacts was recorded.

**Range 3:** target 3 - 424 meters. The target was hit by 16 shooters and a total of 22 successful impacts was recorded.

This is no coincidence, the shooters are getting better at engaging previously thought as out-of-bounds targets and are becoming more adept at predicting the ballistics required to do so.

Practice makes perfect!

Tallying up the scores we found that less than 600 points separated the top three shooters. Loutjie Hanekom took bronze with 28 hits and maximised his result by scoring on the far targets at the start of his string of fire. Shooters placed 4th and 5th achieved 31 hits but Loutjie's early hits ensured that he pipped them on the leader board. Charl Gous and Pieter Eksteen both had 31 successful impacts with Pieter taking silver and Charl gold.

The healthy ladies rivalry, an "unofficial class", saw Lynette Gous finish ahead of the ladies and in 7th overall position to outscore her counterparts. This event has become a family affair and has established itself as a stepping stone into rimfire ELR for the entire family. It supports the "Send IT Vibe" of

EFFICIENT, POWERFUL,  
ERGONOMIC...



**EFFECTO**  
AIR GUNS



60 Hendrik Potgieter Road,  
Florida North,  
Gauteng, South Africa.

Telephone: +27 (0) 11472 1721/2  
E-Mail: sales@powderkeg.co.za  
www.powderkeg.co.za



effectoairguns.com  
BY HUGLU



having fun, providing a welcoming environment for new shooters and sharing information to assist new shooters to get on the target.

We would like to thank our superstar host, Pieter Eksteen, who meticulously prepared the range and made his facilities available for this joyous day. Lastly, we would like to thank Helber Rifles Bullets and Innovations and Quénet's Hunting & Fishing which provided prizes for the challenge gong and junior shooters.

Next up Send IT will host two ELR events at the dedicated ELR range at Darling Steel Valley. These events will be open to calibers up to 50 BMG

where shooters will engage targets from 1200 meters to 2000 meters. The program for 2023 will be released soon and promises to include a new initiative to promote ELR sports shooting in the Western Cape. That is, after all, Send IT's objective.

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

**Contact:**

Anyone in need of additional information can contact Charl Gous on **083 4696 181**.

Be sure to follow Send IT, ELR Shooting on Facebook and find the link to join the Send IT Telegram group where all communications are posted.

<https://www.facebook.com/SendITelrshooting/>



PEKS Shooting Range  
3 September 2022

.22LR ELR Event

Rank	Name	Surname	TOTAL	% of Top	Hits
1	Charl	Gous	21652	100%	31
2	Pieter	Eksteen	21143	98%	31
3	Loutjie	Hanekom	21068	97%	28
4	Bernard	Eksteen	20526	95%	31
5	Rick	Jaffe	20195	93%	31
6	Walter	van der Merwe	19840	92%	29
7	Lynette	Gous	19620	91%	27
8	Paul	van Gass	19506	90%	28
9	Tony	Ingram	18351	85%	29
10	Charlise	Stemmet	17726	82%	26
11	Danie	du Preez	17627	81%	28
12	Marlize	Volschenk	17549	81%	27
13	Tinus	De Grijs	16772	77%	26
14	Kobus	Beukes	16769	77%	24
15	Gerhard	Slabbert	16661	77%	27
16	Theunis	Goosen	16600	77%	26
17	Andre	Volschenk	16524	76%	26
18	Sunelle	De Grijs Eksteen	16378	76%	24
19	Nicolaas	Louw	16330	75%	25
20	Carlo	Gous	15883	73%	25
21	Johan	van Dyk	15677	72%	24
22	Kelly	Hart-Davies	15654	72%	25
23	Chris	Gerber	15382	71%	22
24	Francois	Gous	15229	70%	20
25	Kevin	Du Toit	15020	69%	24
26	Nico	Louw	14771	68%	23
27	Izak	Hanekom	14757	68%	24
28	Marlo	Gerber	14381	66%	22
29	Jeandri	Goosen	14004	65%	21
30	Francois	Vogel	13685	63%	24
31	Kyle	Troy	13533	63%	22
32	Denzel	Geldenhuys	13504	62%	23
33	Bertelo	Visser	12869	59%	22
34	Deon	Fabel	12777	59%	22
35	James	Preyser	12261	57%	20
36	Ruan	van Dyk	11539	53%	19
37	Gareth	Holtman	8992	42%	11
38	Olivia	Shaw	8077	37%	13
39	Nicola	Terry	7618	35%	12
40	Garth	Terry	6054	28%	11



PEKS Shooting Range  
3 September 2022

Juniors (younger than 13 years)  
.22LR ELR Event

Rank	Name	Surname	TOTAL	% of Top	Hits
1	Andre	Hanekom	10798	100%	27
2	Riley	Ingram	10078	93%	25
3	Walter JNR	van der Merwe	9882	92%	26
4	Nina	du Preez	9106	84%	23
5	Elmie	du Preez	7318	68%	20
6	Jordan	Terry	7226	67%	22
7	Daneil	Visser	6334	59%	22
8	Konrad	Beukes	5366	50%	18
9	Handru	Goosen	5188	48%	12



Prizes, Juniors, L-R in image:  
2. Andre Hanekom (1st place)  
1. Walter van der Merwe Jnr (3rd place)  
3. Riley Ingram (2nd place)



Marlo Gerber, Carlo Gous, Nicolaas Louw



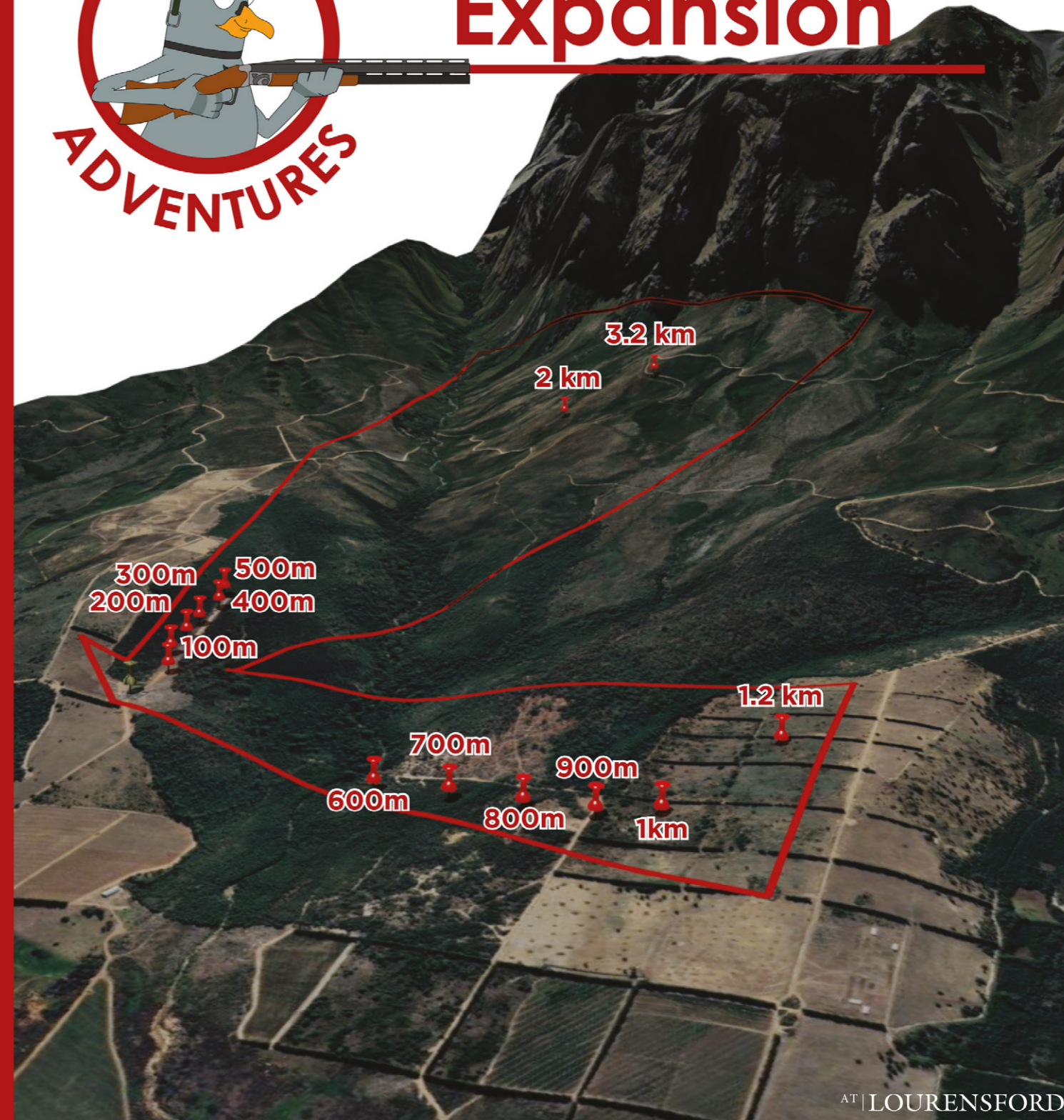
L-R: Charl Gous presenting James Preyser with the prize for impacting the fun challenge gong at the 510 meter target.



L-R: Charl Gous (gold), Pieter Eksteen (silver) and Loutjie Hanekom (bronze).



# Range Expansion



AT LOURENSFORD

info@clayad.co.za | 076 349 2866 | www.clayad.co.za