



A guide to the Shooting Sports in Bendigo



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City of Greater Bendigo Community Grants Program*

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Any prices are correct at the time of printing.



Introduction

The sport of shooting has evolved over time to become a mainstream pastime for many in the Bendigo community.

Whether hunting in the field, or attending shooting grounds and ranges, thousands of people safely enjoy this challenging sport every week in Victoria.

The complexity of the sport can seem confusing to newcomers, so we hope this guide offers some clarity and direction to those wishing to try the sport.



Shooting is for all abilities.

Shooting is for all ages.



So, you are interested in shooting?

Bendigo, and Central Victorian shooters have a great variety of shooting sports available to them, so let's narrow this down a bit.

First some terminology-

Rifles + Pistols generally fire a single projectile, and can be split into three main sub-categories.

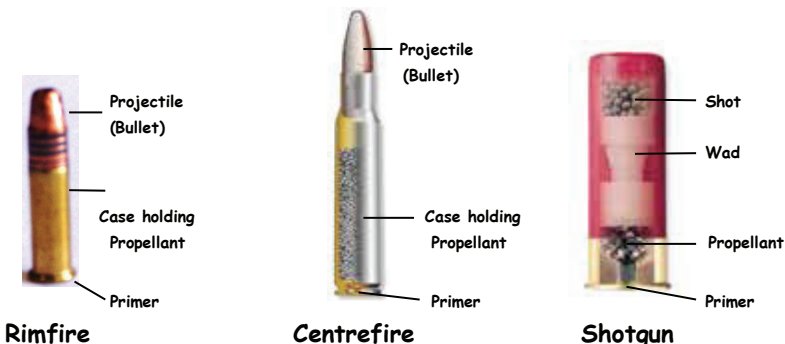
- **Air**; Uses air pressure to propel pellets or other projectiles from the barrel.
- **Rimfire**; Usually smaller capacity cartridges that are fired by the firing pin hitting the **Rim** of the cartridge case.
eg. .22lr, .22wmr (magnum), .17hmr etc.
- **Centrefire**; Larger capacity cartridges that are fired by the firing pin hitting the primer in the **centre** of the cartridge case.
eg. .222, .243, .308, .38, .30-06, .44

Rifles are favoured for precise aiming at targets, and general hunting.

Pistols are used in many different competition disciplines.

Shotguns Generally fire a large number of lead balls (shot). Single cartridges can contain from nine, 00 size balls, to many hundreds of smaller size shot.

Shotguns are preferred for moving targets, whether hunting running or flying game, or shooting clay targets.



Basic firearm components



Now, there are some things we need to know before we handle a firearm....

TEN RULES OF FIREARM SAFETY

1) Treat every firearm as loaded.

Keep your finger off the trigger and point the muzzle in a safe direction. Open the action and inspect the chamber and magazine.

2) Always point firearms in a safe direction.

Stay aware as to where the muzzle is pointing. It is still a firearm when it is in a case or bag!

3) Load a firearm only when ready to fire.

Less time loaded = more time safe. Don't give accidents more time to happen.

4) Identify your target beyond all doubt.

You must be sure of your target BEFORE you pull the trigger. If there is any doubt, **don't shoot.**

5) Check your firing zone.

Be aware of your surroundings. Know how big an area your firearm can affect both before and after the target.

6) Store firearms and ammunition safely.

Don't allow your firearms to fall into the wrong hands. Use the legal requirements as a bare minimum.

7) Avoid alcohol or drugs when handling firearms.

Firearm safety requires concentration and alertness. Adopt a zero tolerance for bad attitudes.

8) Never have loaded firearms in the car, home or camp.

Unload well before you enter a car, camp, home or anywhere that a "safe direction" cannot be maintained.

9) Never fire at hard surfaces or water.

Any projectile can ricochet, causing unforeseen damage or injury.

10) Don't climb fences or obstacles with loaded firearms.

Unload any time control of the firearm might be compromised.

FIREARMS STORAGE

The Firearms Act 1996

SCHEDULE 4

STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

1 Longarm licences for category A and B longarms

- (1) The firearm must be stored in a receptacle—
- (a) which is constructed of hard wood or steel that is not easily penetrable; and
 - (b) which, if it weighs less than 150 kilograms when it is empty, must be fixed to the frame of the floor or the wall of the premises where the firearm is kept in such a manner that it is not easily removable; and
 - (c) which, when any firearm is stored in it, is locked with a lock of sturdy construction.

The Real World

While the Firearms Act 1996 is still in force, we recommend using it as the bare minimum legal requirement.

The invention of powerful battery operated cutting tools, high-tech lock picking devices and the desperation of the modern criminal are all working against us.


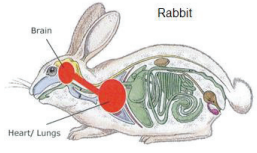


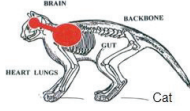

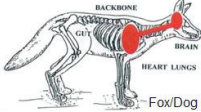

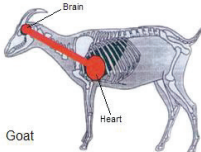

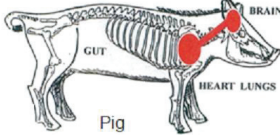
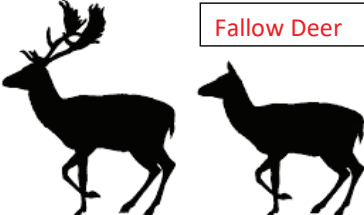
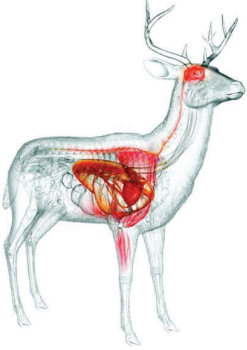
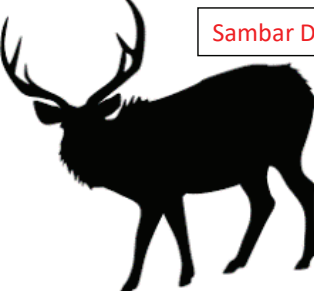
In our favour, however, are the ongoing developments of affordable security cameras and alarms, and the relative cheapness of purpose built, high strength firearm safes and anchoring systems.

Deadlocks and extra locks on doors can also be a deterrent to thieves.



Let's make it hard for criminals to turn us into victims, and deny them the easy pickings they are looking for!

Suggested firearm calibres and shot placement for a variety of game and pest animals

	Rabbit	.17,.22,.410	
	Hare	.17,.22,.410 .20g,12g	
	Feral Cat	.17, .22, .410 20g,12g	
	Fox	.222 .223 .22-250	
	Feral Goat	.223 .243	
	Feral Pig	.243 .270 .30-30	
	Fallow Deer	.243 .270	
	Sambar Deer	.270 .308 .30-06 7mm	



Central Victoria Branch

Contact Richard Chan (President)

Phone 0448 638 243

Email centralvic.pres@austdeer.asn.au

www.austdeer.com.au

PO Box 454, Croydon, Vic 3136

Are you interested in deer and deer hunting? But where do you start?

Join us to learn more about deer, be a better hunter and meet other hunters.

We hunt with rifles (some hunt with bows). The minimum calibre is set by regulation and depending on deer species is 243 or 270. But 7mm, 308, 30-06 and 338 are more popular. We also target shoot with “deer legal” rifles.

Australian Deer Association. Nationally, the ADA advocates for the status of deer, deer management and to improve hunting opportunities. Members receive the magazine *Australian Deer* and have public liability and firearms insurance cover.

Central Victoria Branch.

Join us in the bush for hunter mentoring camps and organised branch deer hunts.

Join us at Longlea Recreation Reserve Club Rooms, 6:30pm the 2nd Wednesday of “even” months for friendly educational and social meetings. We have interesting guest speakers, demonstrations, BBQs, raffles & prizes and share stories and hunting info. And we have a great Christmas party!



Property Based Game Management.

Join us and get accredited in the ADA’s deer cull program. This operates with private land owners & Parks Victoria and is only available to accredited members.





BENDIGO CLAY TARGET CLUB Inc

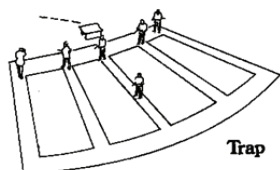
Affiliated A.C.T.A & V.C.T.A

Address 551 Bendigo/Pyramid Rd Woodvale Vic

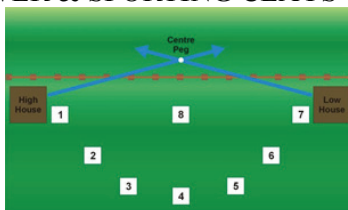
Contact secretary 0409 434 512

Find us on Facebook

Your local venue for an introduction to the Clay Target shooting disciplines of TRAP, SKEET, BALL- TRAP, TOWER & SPORTING CLAYS



Trap



TRAP (DTL) LAYOUT

SKEET LAYOUT

The disciplines we shoot are; **Trap** or DTL (Down the line) shot on a standard layout as shown above the targets are variable from a fixed central point. **Skeet** is shot on a standardised layout as shown above and the targets follow a fixed pattern. **Ball trap** is similar to trap but the angles of targets are wider and faster making it an exciting discipline. **Tower** is shot from a layout in a straight line under a tower so all targets are above your head and going away from you.

Sporting clays the targets simulate what you may expect when in the field, the speed, height, distance and angles of targets are all variable making it really fun as well as challenging to shoot.

The over and under shotgun in 12 gauge is by far the most popular shotgun used in the clay target disciplines.

Bendigo clay target club offers practice every Tuesday from approx. 1.00pm to approx. 6.00pm depending on weather and light conditions. We shoot competition on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month, except for January and June when we hold major competitions.

Visitors to the club are made most welcome and someone is always available to show you around and get you started.



Bendigo Field Archers

P.O. Box 1031, Bendigo 3551.

bendigofieldarchers@gmail.com

Facebook: Bendigo Field Archers



Venue: Tresize Track, Wellsford Forest

Equipment Used

Compound and Recurve bows, with and without sights and Traditional longbows

A warm friendly and welcoming environment for all ages

Introduction to Archery Course, once off payment, three free club shoots and equipment hire also included

Four field archery courses , Two International Field Archery Association (IFAA) Courses Regular Club Outdoor and Indoor shoots , a wide variety of target faces—ABA coloured, IFAA and indoor & 3D Targets

A practice range

Equipment for the beginner archer, in a variety of different sizes

A clubhouse with an open fireplace and canteen that supplies hot & cold food and drinks on the day of shoots

Accredited Field Archery Coaches, who are working with children certified, and maintain CPR & first aid certificates

Bow hunter proficiency courses

Annual club championships. Opportunities to compete at other clubs, state and national level.

Club, State & National bow hunting awards

Group Bookings for Schools & Others Interested

A fun and Challenging Activity anyone can enjoy, regardless of age, ability and capacity.

Anyone from the age of 4 - 80+ can have a go.



Bendigo Pistol Club



PO Box 103, Golden Square Vic 3555
Rifle Range Road (Off Pratts Park Rd)
Wellsford Forest Junortoun
Ph: 0428 100 528
bendigopistolclub@gmail.com



Visiting times for potential new members are on
Wednesday's between 6-7pm and Saturday between 11am -1pm
A phone call in advance is always appreciated

Firearms used

Predominantly Pistols in a variety of calibres

Some rifles and shotgun used only in the discipline of Single Action Shooting

The Bendigo Pistol Club is under the governance of the Victorian Amateur Pistol Association and is the only Victorian Target Pistol Shooting body affiliated with Pistol Australia.

We are staffed with volunteers dedicated to helping all members. Pistol shooting is an enjoyable safe and inclusive sport for people of all ages and abilities. We promote and encourage competitive target shooting with a view to developing members who will become proficient and safe in the use of pistols.

We provide an extensive calendar of events, with a range of shooting activities.

All members of a family over the age of 12 can become actively involved in the sport.



Pistol Shooting at 10m (indoors)



www.bendigopistolclub.org.au



Bendigo Rifle Club

Email address- gregstom@y7mail.com

Secretary- Greg Tomorad 0408 338 053

Parent Organisation- Victorian Rifle Association

At the **Wellsford Rifle Range**, Rifle Range Rd. East Bendigo

Firearms used.

Scoped and Peep- Sight Centrefire rifles- Any calibre to 8mm.

Saturdays- Practice sessions and Competitions.

Distances shot- From 300m to 1000m.

Target Rifle- .308 or .223 with Peep Sights.

Shot prone. (laying down)

F Open- Any calibre with telescopic sights.

Shot prone with rests.



Field and Game Australia, Bendigo Branch

PO Box 799, Bendigo, Victoria, 3552

Bendigofieldandgame@gmail.com

Bendigofieldandgame.weebly.com/

Facebook, Bendigo Field and Game

Greg Shelton, 0408065444



Bendigo Branch

Inc A000183W

ABN 75 174 477 105

hunting
target shooting
conservation

***field and Game
australia***

Shooting Range, Collins Road, Bagshot North

Shooting Disciplines/Firearms used. Simulated Field Clay Target/ Shotgun only

General Shooting

Simulated Field Shooting is the closest thing to actual field shooting of all shotgun sports. Field and Game courses are designed to simulate the hunting of ducks, quail, and even rabbits. Targets may be thrown from literally any angle or distance to



simulate game, and six different sizes of clay targets are used to further give the shooter the experience of actual hunting conditions. Field and Game is typically shot in squads of six people and shot over a course of 6 to 10 shooting stations set around the natural features of the land, similar to a golf course only shooting stations. The course designer is not limited in target speed, angle, or distance, so every course is different.

The most common target used in Simulated is the clay that is used in skeet and trap, also specialty targets are used to introduce the illusion of speed or distance in the eye of the shooter, moving at speeds or in the ways of game birds. All can be thrown as singles or pairs.

Practice and Shooter Education. The club shoots practice and Come and Try Days during the year at various times details are posted on our facebook page, practice is usually costed at \$8 per 25 targets

Competition. Field and Game Bendigo shoots competition 75 target or 100 target on the 4th Saturday of the month starting at 10am most shoots. (Bendigo junior members , U18 shoot for free)

Golden City Collectors Association Inc. of Bendigo



PO Box 3066, Bendigo Mail Centre. Vic. 3554

gccabendigo@gmail.com

www.collectorsbendigo.com.au

Greg Penna 0427 400 930



Permit to use **VAPA Range, Quarry Road, Shelbourne**

Shooting Disciplines/Firearms used.

Collectable Pistols, Longarms & Black Powder guns of all types

The **Golden City Collectors**, as the name suggests, is predominately a collectors' club, rather than a shooters club, but hold two significant shooting events each year for its members. In May, the Ted Harvey Black Powder Shoot, and in November, The Bill Evans Memorial Shoot, which involves a pistol shooting contest and quiz to assess entrant's general knowledge of firearms. The Club prides itself on **'Preserving heritage for future generations**, promoting and encouraging a responsible preservation of collections of historical firearms and related artefacts. The Club holds an **Annual Arms & Collectables Show on the 4th weekend of each August** to showcase member's Collections and to bring local & interstate Firearms Dealers to Bendigo under one roof in a safe, secure venue.



Members meet at the Quarry Hill Community Hall, Hamlet Street, Bendigo, on the 2nd Tuesday of every month. The Club has Guest Speakers on topics such as the responsible storing of firearms, keeping abreast of the latest Government legislation regarding the ownership and registration of firearms and any related topics. Meeting nights have a Theme where members are invited to display & speak about items from their collections. **New Members Welcome.**



Golden City Small Bore Rifle Club

Phone Contact: Greg Tomorad: 0408338053

Email Address: gregstom@y7mail.com

Parent Organisation: Target Rifle Victoria

At the **Bendigo Pistol Club Range**, Rifle Range Rd., Bendigo East.

Shooting Disciplines/Firearms used

Any .22lr rifles, with peep sights or scopes. Air rifles also welcome.

Open for Shooting, Wednesday nights from 4.00pm until late.

Shoot from a Bench, Standing, Kneeling, Sitting or Prone. (Laying down)

Ranges available are 10m, 20m, and 50m.





South Bendigo Rifle Club

rodmahon@bigpond.com

Rod Mahon; 0418507410

Shooting at the [Wellsford Rifle Range](#), Rifle Range Rd., East Bendigo

Firearms Used:

Centerfire Rifles, scoped or peep-sight.

Precision long range target shooting from 300 to 1000mtrs.

We Shoot most Sundays.



Sporting Shooters Association of Australia, Bendigo Branch



PO Box 1098, Bendigo Victoria, 3552

ssaabendigo@hotmail.com

ssaabendigo.com.au

Vic Alexander, 0438353425.



Operators of the **Marong Rifle Range**, 150 Marong- Serpentine Rd. Marong

Firearms used.

Rifles of all types, both with scopes and open sights, and some shotgun.

General Shooting, Open to members (\$6) and non-members (\$10), is held on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each Month.

These days are ideal for firearms owners to practice with, or sight in rifles (Rimfire and Centrefire), and practice with shotguns. Targets can be set at 25, 50, 100, and 200metres.

The Range is always supervised by friendly, qualified Range Officers.

Shooting starts at 12.00pm, and shooters must be 12 years or older.

SAFFE Program, (**Safety and Family Firearms Education**) is held on the 2nd Sunday of each Month from 9.45am, and is designed to teach both Juniors and Adults basic firearm safety, skills and techniques. Club rifles and ammunition are supplied for a fee of \$8 (cost of ammunition). This program is a perfect way to try .22 rifle shooting before becoming licensed, to decide if the sport is right for you.



Competition. **SSAA Bendigo** shoots many different competition types from .22 and Centerfire Benchrest, through to positional (standing, kneeling, sitting, prone) types. Our web-site contains a list of competitions with a brief description of each, as well as our quarterly Competition Calendar.

Sporting Shooters Association of Australia, Bendigo Branch



Fox Shooters

Ian Dean- 0419 131 910

foxdrive2020@gmail.com

Ben Wakefield- 0428 590 978

Foxhunter202020@gmail.com



Firearms used.

Shotguns of any gauge.

Are you looking for an activity that is different, exciting, environmentally focused and healthy? Then perhaps you should contemplate joining the Sporting Shooters Association of Australia Bendigo Fox Shooters.

We employ a hunting strategy called “driving”, where a group of “beaters” (hunters making lots of noise) drive the foxes toward a line of hunters waiting quietly. This tactic ensures the foxes are despatched humanely, and that only the target species is culled.

We usually operate from the first weekend in May through to August in each year and our Members are always keen to add new participants to our ranks. You will derive exercise, enjoyment, camaraderie and mental wellness from this pursuit, while the local community receives the benefits of free pest eradication.



In association
with



Healthy Parks
Healthy People®

The RSPCA estimates that each fox kills 1000 native animals per year.

Club Name: Sporting Shooters Association of Australia, Marong Pistol Club

Postal Address: PO Box 851 Strathfieldsaye, 3551

Phone Contact: Lance Phillips: 0408 506 673

Email Address: helengregr@hotmail.com

Web-Site: Nil



Parent Organisation: Sporting Shooters Association of Australia

Sub-Club V03: Sporting Shooters Association of Australia, Bendigo Branch

Utilising the **Marong Rifle Range**, 150 Marong Serpentine Rd. Marong

Shooting Disciplines/Firearms used.

SSAA Approved handgun matches. Handguns of various of calibre to suit said match.

General Shooting, (open to members (\$6)

General match days are held on 1st Saturdays and as per nominated calendar dates.

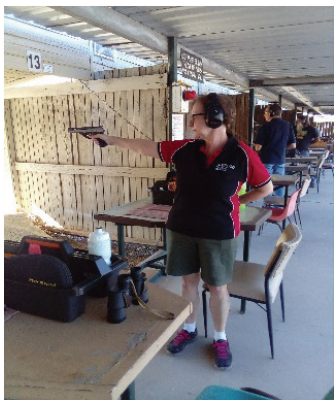
Club ammunition provided (fee).

Social barbeque lunch provided (donation).

The Range is always supervised by friendly, qualified Range Officers.

The range is open at 0900am, and shooters must be 12 years or older.

Men, women and family members all welcome.



Competition. SSAA Marong Pistol Club shoots a variety of SSAA approved handgun match/disciplines. Targets are mainly paper with some steel (poppers). Blackpowder, ISSF, IHMSA are a few to name.

NOTES:

