



SOUTH AFRICAN FIELD TARGET AIRGUN ASSOCIATION

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Chairman's Annual Report - 2019

Following a tumultuous year, I would like to focus on a number of highlights this year.

There has been a slow and incremental increase in our member numbers. It is great to see a number of new shooters enjoying our sport and especially some senior shooters that returned. We expect these numbers to increase next year with the opportunity of hosting WFTC2020. Our challenge will be to retain these members going forward.

We awarded Protea colours to five new members that included two juniors. This, I believe, is a good indication of the state of the sport, with significant competition at the elite level.

A record number of SAFTAA participants attended the WFTC2019 in England.

Although our team's performance, in quite challenging conditions, were not what we expected, they represented the sport and South Africa very well.

I would like to express a special word of thanks to the Committee that invested their time and effort to improve the Association. This was done without complaints and sometimes at significant personal sacrifice. We really appreciate your commitment.

SAHFTA incorporation

At the last AGM, the clubs decided that SAFTAA should continue to discuss the method and process to accommodate and incorporate the Hunter Field Target community. This follows from initial discussions initiated in 2018.

Some of the highlights this year are listed below:

- Wonderboom club, after a request by members, decided to offer Hunter Field Target as an additional discipline.
- SAHFTA formalized and adopted a constitution and rules that were based on our own versions (and are therefore closely aligned).
- SAFTAA and SAHFTA developed and signed a Memorandum of Understanding to govern the relationship. The principles of this relationship are that the associations will remain separate in members and finances but that SAFTAA will represent SAHFTA at the SA Shooting Sports Confederation (SASSCo)
- We approached SASSCo and obtained permission to also represent SAHFTA.
- Clubs hosted successful joint HFT and FT shoots with no significant disruption to either discipline.

It is our intention to continue to utilize the collaboration to grow both disciplines in members, clubs and provinces.

WFTF update

During the 2018 WFTF rule and proposal window, the world federation adopted a proposal that reduces the number of team members in the PCP teams for the World Championship from 8 to 6.

SAFTAA has applied for this change to be suspended for our championship in 2020 to ensure maximum participation in our event. Voting is still continuing at present but there is very strong support for our proposal.

In order to grow FT globally it is necessary to review the funding model of WFTF. At present the federation has no funds and any development rely on individual contributions of time, intellectual property or money. This severely limits growth. It is the view of fellow Regional Governing Bodies that growth in the sport necessary and required.

The current funding proposal is that all participants of a WFTC going forward contribute €10 per year. SAFTAA supports this proposal and we have already incorporated the amount in the budget for WFTC2020.

Alignment of rules

During the Association's 2018 AGM, we decided to continue to follow the WFTF rules as close as possible. We also decided to involve clubs (and members) in the rule change decisions and instituted a voting process similar to the process being followed to amend the WFTF Core rules.

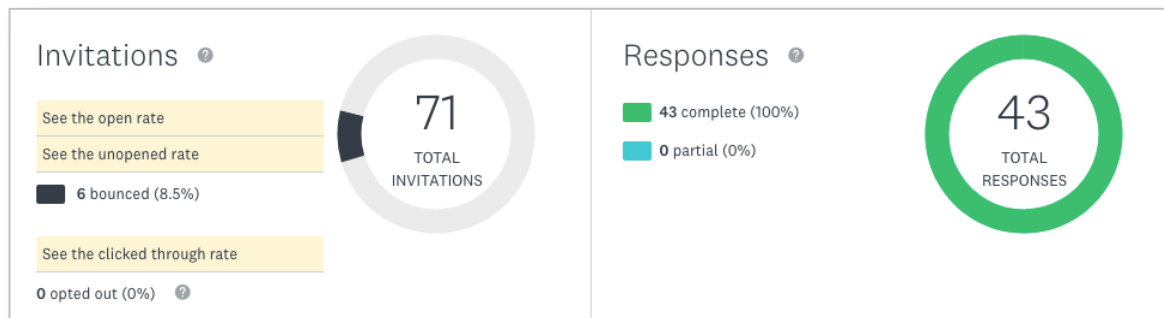
This resulted in significant amendment and very close alignment to the World Federation's rules while still considering South Africa's particular requirements.

The 2019 cycle of WFTF rule amendments has not yet kicked off. *The committee will request the clubs' input before committing the Association to any WFTF rule changes. Any local rule changes will again only be effected after the National Trials 2020.*

Community Pulse check

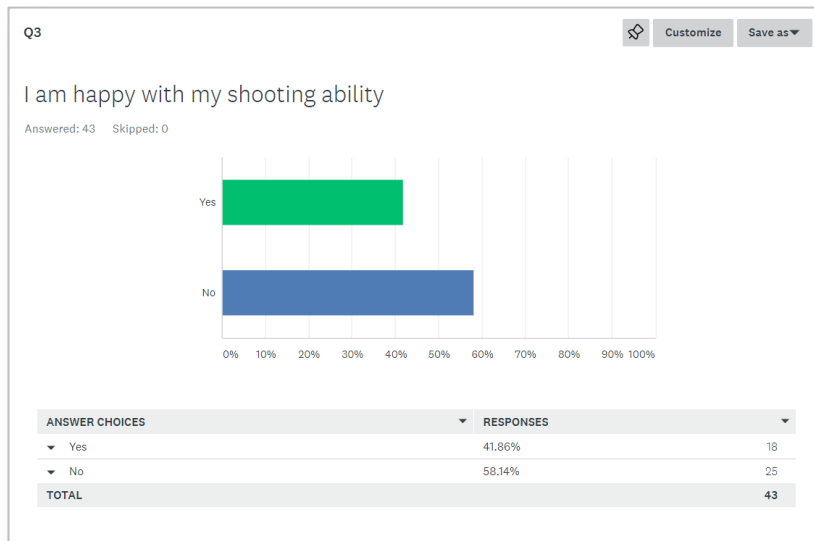
During May we issued a pulse check of the SAFTAA community. Below are the results from the most pertinent questions with some personal reflections and possible focus areas.

We would like to thank everybody that responded.



We issued the survey to all the current (at the time) members of SAFTAA. The response rate of 61% was really positive. I see this as the community's willingness to participate and improve our sport.

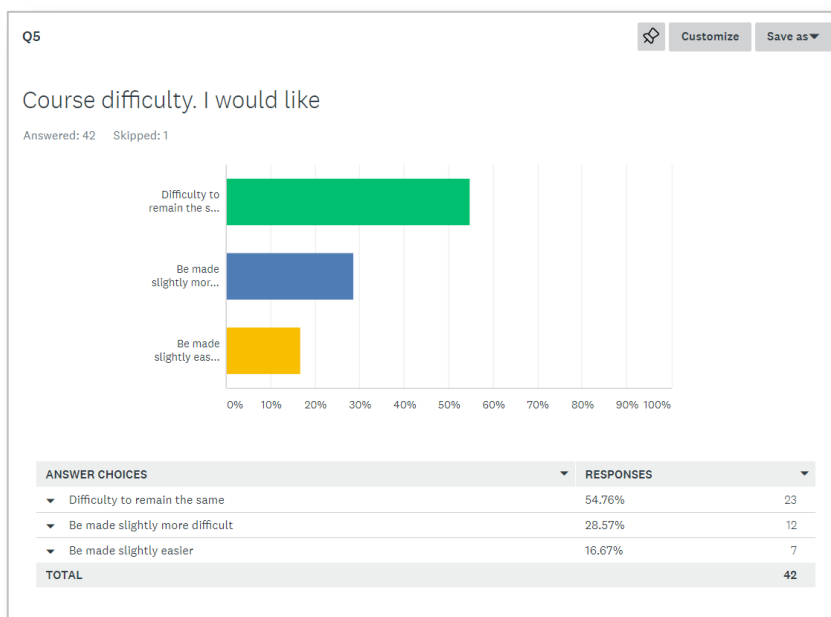
We used the current database and contact details of members and found several email addresses that are outdated or missing. *This will be corrected during the next registration.*



The graph above reflects the respondents' view of their shooting ability. The areas for improvement that were identified are:

- Shooting in wind
- Positionals
- Correct practice techniques

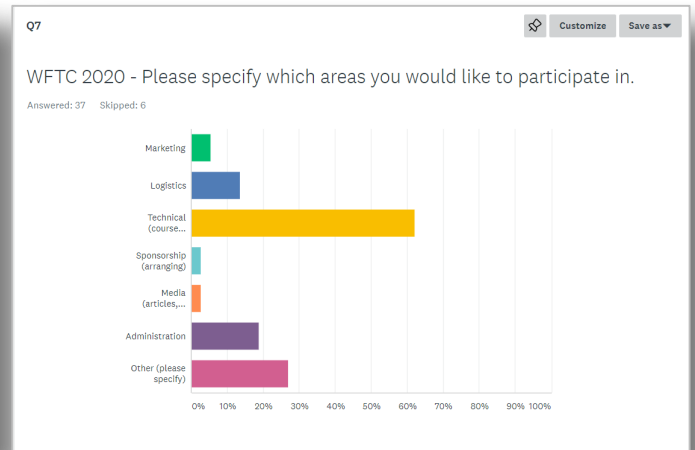
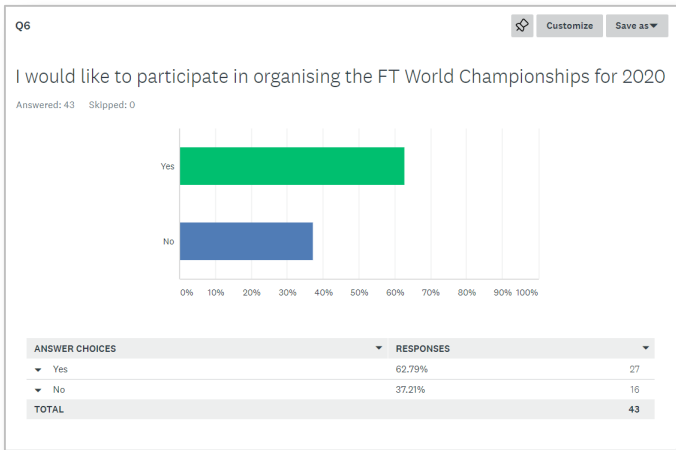
It is our intention to continue and expand the current development days for new and experienced shooters (especially leading up to WFTC2020). We will also continue individual coaching by pairing experienced shooters with those that request assistance and those that require development.



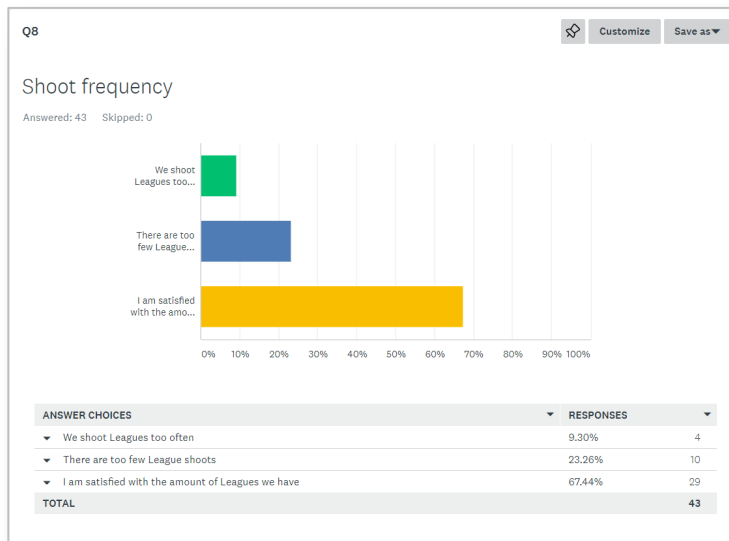
During the year, we increased the difficulty requirements of league shoots slightly and this resulted in an impression that the community in general was opposed to the increase.

The survey indicated that the majority of respondents are happy with the new difficulty level (or would like to see it further increased)

We intend to maintain the current difficulty level.



The graphs above reflect the respondents' willingness to participate in the organizing of the upcoming WFTC2020 as well as their areas of involvement. FT Community involvement and participation is going to be critical to the success of the championship.



The majority of the respondents are happy with the amount of League shoots we host. There was some anecdotal evidence that League shoots should be more evenly spaced throughout the year to avoid clustering of shoots and then periods of in-activity.

We will endeavor to design a more balanced schedule for 2020.



Wian Strydom
SAFTAA Chairman