Day 3 Tuesday 18 September

Today teams compete in the Merrett Match. On mound personnel comprise 10 shooting members, 1 captain, 2 coaches, 2 scorers and 2 check scorers. Shots fired are two optional sighters and 10 scoring shots per shooter to count over each distance of 300, 600, 800 and 900 metres.

The Victorians having arrived at the range by 7.30am were settled and ready for the earlier 8.15am muster for 8.30am start.

Weather forecasted today is for times of cloud and sun with winds from east to south east gusting at times between 4-15km/h.

Not all went smoothly for the morning with the range officers having to call a number of halts to shooting due to target faces needing re-fixing.

Going into the second range of the morning New South Wales team was continuing the good form from yesterday leading by five points from Victoria in second place.

By the end of the second range at 600 metres all teams had managed to finish ahead of time and the lunch break went ahead at 12noon as per the program.

Next range after lunch was 800 metres with the Victorians needing to pull a few possibles out of the 'shot bag' to make up for some lost ground at 600m.

They didn't disappoint with a set of 50.6s, a 50.7 and 50.9 putting Victoria into third place going into the final range of 900 metres and within striking distance of the leaders (NSW) provided the Victorians maintained their focus.

With the New South Wales team leading on (1461.146) followed by Queensland (1456.141) two points ahead of Victoria on (1456.141) the match was getting interesting.

With the wind blowing from south east in gusts between 4 and 6 km/h the conditions were tricky for all the teams.

The Victorian team kept focused doing what they had worked on, planned and trained for during their practice sessions at the Bendigo Wellsford Range. This served them well with Victoria winning the Merrett by 5 points.

Final results: Victoria (1927.169) NSW (1922.176) SARA (1922.143) QRA (1920.176) WARA (1916.115) NQRA (1880.128)















