

THE BLACK POWDER SHOOTING UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Formerly The Historical Firearms Shooting Union Founded in 1958



www.bpsu.co.za

Affiliated to:

MUZZLE LOADER ASSOCIATIONS' INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

SOUTH AFRICAN BISLEY UNION (SABU)

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Dear BPSU members

The BPSU Management team wants to use this opportunity to wish all our members a prosperous and successful 2014 on a personal and professional level!

BPSU Members that were issued **Dedicated Sportsman status** recently must have noticed that there is an expiry date printed on the certificate. The requirements and conditions under which SABU issues Dedicated Sportsman Status need clarification, and the process to be followed by BPSU members is summarised below:

- In order to become a dedicated sportsman, one must be a fully paid up member of SABU. The Firearms Control Act clearly states that for this, one must be a paid up and active member of a sports shooting association which has been accredited as such by the Firearms Control Registry. SABU has officially been granted this accreditation and BPSU is affiliated to SABU, facilitating this service to our members.
- SABU's insurance only applies to fully paid up BPSU and SABU members.
- In order to be a SABU member one is required to be a paid up member of a black powder club which is affiliated to BPSU.
- To apply for dedicated sportsman status one must comply with the following: -
 - Successfully complete the full proficiency training required to possess a muzzle loading firearm and obtain the relevant certificate.
 - One must be active. This is achieved by attaining at least 6 points during the 12 months preceding the application. Points are acquired as follows:
 - An official **club shoot** counts **1 point**. Only events that are published on the BPSU website under Shooting Calendars and submitted via SABU to the insurers according to the policy can accumulate points. These shoots must take place on accredited or official ranges and results must be published on the BPSU website after each event.
 - **Provincial shoots** count **2 points**. The same requirements apply as for club shoots.
 - The BPSU Short and Long Range Nationals count **3 points each**, unless it is presented as one event, in which case only 3 points can be awarded.

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- Participation in International Events and for which official Protea colours have been approved by SASCOC counts **5 points**.
 - When one has accumulated 6 points one is deemed active for dedicated sportsman purposes. A minimum of 6 points per calendar year must be maintained following acquiring dedicated sportsman status; if not, your dedicated sportsman status may be revoked and the Central Firearms Registry will be informed accordingly.
 - The **certificate is only valid until 31 December of the year in which it was issued**. If one remains dedicated by accumulating the required 6 points per calendar year, the status remains valid, but in case of application for additional licences, a new certificate needs to be obtained in exactly the same manner as applying for the first time.
- **Note the following:**
 - One needs to shoot during these events to acquire points – merely being present or acting as range officer does not qualify any longer. Individuals practicing during club shoots need to submit some form of result to the database for the website, otherwise their participation will be deemed as being present only.
 - Only **official shoots on an official program shot on an official range** count towards points for dedicated sportsman status.
 - An official shoot is an event which is published on the BPSU website and which duly takes place when scheduled.
 - An official range is either a fully operational SANDF shooting range for which formal permission has been given to hold the event envisaged or a shooting range which has been accredited by the SAPS and NRCS.
 - The process to be followed is as follows:
 - Complete the application form and provide sufficient motivation (download from http://www.bpsu.co.za/BPSU_DedicatedSport.html)
 - Attach the following documents:
 - Proficiency certificate complying with the Unit Standards for handle and use of a Rifle, Handgun, Shotgun and/or Muzzle loader (NOT ONLY Knowledge of the Firearms Act or for Renewal Purposes only!)
 - Competency Certificate for Muzzle Loading Firearms
 - Letter from your primary black powder shooting club to confirm that you are a paid up member for the current year
 - Copy of Identity Document
 - Copy of existing firearms licence (if available)
 - Proof of payment of **R50** into the BPSU bank account to cover postage to and from SABU
 - Dates, scores and details of ranges of official shoots attended during the preceding 12 months. This will be verified against what is published on the BPSU website.

Therefore, make sure that your club representative submits the scores on a monthly basis.

- Submit to the BPSU secretary for processing and recommendation by the BPSU chairman before submitting to SABU. The process is dependent on at least 4 different individuals and will therefore be influenced by the availability of these individuals (who are all in full time professional jobs). Do not wait until the last moment to apply and then expect the process to be finalised in a week's time. This can take up to 2 months ...
- Applications that do not comply with these requirements will NOT be processed.

I trust that this note clears up any questions with regard to obtaining dedicated sportsman status and SABU's insurance cover for official shoots.

Kind regards

MERWÉ VAN RENSBURG

CHAIRMAN: BPSU of SA

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