

## North Island 300 Metre Championship

The North Island 300 metre championship was hosted by the Te Puke club on the 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> May 2017. There was a turnout of 15 shooters. Saturdays forecast was for showers in the morning with a brief period of rain around mid-day, with a bit of wind. Well that was fairly correct but what they hadn't quite got right was the strength, which turned out to be gale, and the temperature of the liquid ice that hosed down on detail 2 driven at gale force, which was freezing.

Saturday started out overcast with sunny patches, for the first detail of seven comprising 6 FO/FTR, and 1 TR shooter, who made the best of the conditions. Steve Mann of Gisborne club posting a 598.50 in FO, Paul Neilson of Gisborne club a 591.21 in FTR, and Mick Buckley of Te Puke a 570.12 in TR Open.

Then it all changed. Detail 2 of 6 TR and 1 FO forced their way to the mound against a howling gale, as the sky darkened upwind. Loose gear flew downrange as shooters tried to set up while pinning down every item of gear with some part of the body. Shooting started, the gale rose and the liquid ice poured down. The horrendous buffeting, poor sighting and physical cold ensured that the scores were not flash with Brian Carter of Te Puke, a 561.14 in TR Open, Irene Cameron of Te Puke a 559.12 in ISSF and Makuini Moses a 578.14 in FO. There was an abrupt finish to the day with everyone heading home for dry clothes and to thaw out.

Sunday was a beautiful sunny autumn day with mild winds after a frosty start. Order of shooting was swapped with the TR shooters getting first go. Rob Johansen of Gisborne posting a 584.16 in ISSF, Paul Neil of Franklin Club a possible 600.33 in FO, Paul Neilson of Gisborne a 594.34 in FTR, and John Scobie of Otorohanga a 521.6 in TR Open.

A special thanks to Ivan Hastings who volunteered to be our Butts officer for the weekend and to Pam Fourie who acted as our Range officer through both days and enabled the competition to happen with nary a hiccup.

Saturday		Sunday	
		FO	
S Mann	598.50	P Neil	600.33
S Kapene	595.32	S Mann	596.34
P Neil	594.33	S Kapene	593.18
M Moses	578.14	M Moses	587.26
		FTR	
P Neilson	591.21	P Neilson	594.34
E Fourie	586.20	M Johansen	584.24
M Johansen	581.20	E Fourie	582.27
		ISSF	
I Cameron	559.12	R Johansen	584.16
R Ruiterman	556.08	R Ruiterman	579.13
J Ball	555.10	I Cameron	578.25
R Johansen	553.06	J Ball	574.14
		A Dickson	572.12
		TR Open	
M Buckley	570.12	J Scobie	521.06
B Carter	561.14		
J Scobie	504.05		

		Two day Agg
		FO
S Mann	1194.84	
P Neil	1194.66	
S Kapene	1188.50	
M Moses	1165.40	
		FTR
P Neilson	1185.55	
E Fourie	1168.47	
M Johansen	1165.44	
		TR Open
J Scobie	1023.11	
M Buckley	570.12	
B Carter	561.14	
		ISSF
I Cameron	1137.37	
R Johansen	1137.22	
R Ruiterman	1135.21	
J Ball	1129.24	
A Dickson	572.12	



Report by John Ball