

Top guns duel at Crows Nest

Two of the State's top shooters were separated by the narrowest of margins with Colin Cole edging out Ashley Bidgood in the Crows Nest-Goombungee Rifle Club annual prize shoot at the weekend.

Colin, from the North Arm club at Yandina, had to pull out the highest score of the day on the final range, a possible 50 with seven centre bulls, to edge out local club member Ashley by a single centre bull 148.15 to 148.14.

Both are State team members with Colin a multiple Queensland Club Champion of Champions winner and Ashley the current title holder.

Wind conditions were challenging for the big field of 72 competitors in the first prize meeting on the 2010 shooting calendar.

The opening range over 600 metres was especially tough with the top three competitors all dropping two shots to be locked together on 48.3.

Isaac Francis a 16 from Darling Downs Club went on to fill third place with an aggregate score of 146.6. Isaac has been selected in the Australian under 25 team for an international shoot in Bisley, England, in July.

A 15 shot sweepstakes over 500 yards on Saturday was won by Ashley Bidgood with a possible 75.10 from Alan Cronk, Murwillumbah on 75.6.

In a strong B grade competition, Gatton's Ron Bowman finished on top with 142.6 from Darling Downs member Greg Rees on 142.4.

Young Murwillumbah shooter Greg Davids won C Grade with 140.7 from Nick Rees, Darlings Downs 139.8.

Dennis Brown from North Arm shot 163.5 to win the F Standard scope class from Pittsworth veteran Ted Long on 162.3.

Julie McEwan from Dalby-Tara was a convincing winner in F Open class beating her husband Cameron 170.9 to 167.5.

The next event on the Prize Shoot circuit will be hosted by Beaudesert Rifle Club on February 28.

Crows Nest-Goombungee results

Prize Shoot Aggregate:

A Grade: 1 Colin Cole, North Arm, 148.15, 2 Ashley Bidgood, Crows Nest-Goombungee, 148.14, 3 Isaac Francis, Darling Downs, 146.6, 4 Bob Abood, Albert District, 145.12, 5 Alan Cronk, Murwillumbah 145.11, 6 Bill Baker, Pacific, 145.6, 7

Rob Bondfield, Southern Downs, 145.6, 8 David Phippard, Murwillumbah, 144.11, 9 John Caske, Natives, 144.10, 10 John Hislop, Ipswich, 144.10.

B Grade: 1 Ron Bowman, Gatton, 142.6, 2 Greg Rees, Darling Downs, 142.4, 3 Russell Saxby, Goondiwindi, 141.11, 4 Kevin Howlett, Natives, 141.11, 5 Don Hudson, Toowoomba, 141.7.

C Grade: 1 Greg Davids, Murwillumbah, 140.7, 2 Nick Rees, Darling Downs, 139.8, 3 Danny O'Meara, Gold Coast, 137.6, 4 Les Pedersen, Darling Downs, 135.5, 5 Jim Choice, Goondiwindi 135.5.

F Class Standard: 1 Dennis Brown, North Arm, 163.5, 2 Ted Long, Pittsworth, 162.3, 3 Darby Matthews, Darling Downs, 161.4.

F Class Open: 1 Julie McEwan, Dalby-Tara, 170.9, 2 Cameron McEwan, Dalby-Tara, 167.5, 3 Karl Bell, Brisbane, 166.11.

Sweepstakes, 15 shots

A Grade: 1 Ashley Bidgood, Crows Nest-Goombungee, 75.10, 2 Alan Cronk, Murwillumbah, 75.6, 3 David Brown, Crows Nest-Goombungee, 74.10.

B Grade: 1 Brian Pickles, Natives, 74.6, 2 Nev Bidgood, Crows Nest-Goombungee 73.5, 3 Russell Saxby, Goondiwindi 72.8.

C Grade: 1 Vanessa Walker, Crows Nest-Goombungee 72.4, 2 Kathy Donpon, Darling Downs, 67.3, 3 Alan Bishop, Maryborough, 64.3.

F Open: 1 Murray Reck, Crows Nest-Goombungee, 83.5, 2 David Reddan, Toowoomba 83.2

F Standard: 1 Dennis Brown, North Arm, 85, 2 John Johnstone, University, 84.5, 3 Col Sutton, Goondiwindi, 84.3.