



SAGA Snippets

THE SAGA TRUST
PO BOX 35203, NORTHWAY, 4065
TEL 031-562-9951 CELL 066-003-9226 FAX 086-553-9615

EMAIL: SAGA@SAGA.ORG.ZA
WEB: WWW.SAGA.ORG.ZA
FACEBOOK: GunLobbySAGA

What's Happening at SAGA?



August – Women's Month

SAGA, together with a number of organisations, co-sponsored and held five very successful Women's Day Shoots, throughout the country. SAGA Chairperson, Damian Enslin, was able to attend 4 of the events and supported the various event organisers and attendees.

Pretty close to 150 ladies throughout the country were able to learn a lot more about firearm safety, awareness, the laws pertaining to self-defence, as well as the practical use and handling of various firearms. In SAGA's view these events have been extremely successful and SAGA will continue to support such events.

SAGA Membership

There is a major drive with SAGA membership and we encourage all members to recruit at least 2 or 3 new members. We need all gun owners whoever they may be, and whatever their interest may be, to join SAGA. We have seen good growth in corporate membership, as many corporates and organisations look to SAGA to further their particular interests in the firearm industry.

SAGA Class Actions against CFR

SAGA has been involved in four class actions to date, and potentially with a fifth one on the way. These class actions have been very successful, to the extent that CFR on a weekly basis, sends us updates on the progress with our members' applications. Amnesty applications are unfortunately still lagging somewhat, but in the last couple of weeks CFR has made a concerted effort.

We will continue to keep up the pressure on CFR and will ensure that the outstanding applications are finalised on an urgent basis.

This is the success to date:

List 1	Applications	Approved	%
Amnesty	49	31	63.3%
Competency	45	44	97.8%
Licence	96	79	82.3%
Renewal	56	44	78.6%
Total	246	198	80.5%

List 2	Applications	Approved	%
Amnesty	45	14	31.1%
Competency	33	32	97.0%
Licence	40	37	92.5%
Renewal	52	41	78.8%
Total	170	124	72.9%

List 3	Applications	Approved	%
Amnesty	35	15	42.9%
Competency	31	26	83.9%
Licence	62	32	51.6%
Renewal	12	10	83.3%
Total	140	83	59.3%

List 4	Applications	Approved	%
Amnesty	69	21	30.4%
Competency	27	22	81.5%
Licence	33	16	48.5%
Renewal	60	8	13.3%
Total	189	67	35.4%

All Lists	Applications	Approved	%
Amnesty	198	81	40.9%
Competency	136	124	91.2%
Licence	231	164	71.0%
Renewal	180	103	57.2%
Total	745	472	63.4%

SAGA Media / TV Exposure

SAGA continues to take a major role in social media, printed and online media as well as on TV and radio. We have been called upon in this last month to be interviewed and asked to comment on matters such as a crime, the unfortunate and tragic recent tavern attacks, women and firearms, and various other issues affecting firearm owners and the general public.

SAGA Snippets August 2022

Special points of interest:

- What's Happening at SAGA?
- Women's Month Events
- Grandparents Guide to Teaching Gun Safety
- Why You Should Learn to Shoot One-Handed
- SAGA Membership
- SAGA Corporate Membership

Women's Month Events



Gauteng

30 July and 27 August

Two Ladies Mornings were held at Tactical HQ at Fourways. These were run by SAGA representative, Themba Khubeka. The ladies learnt about firearm safety, the law as it pertains to firearms and got the chance to shoot a number of different firearms. The ladies enjoyed the experience and went away more informed and with a better idea about owning and using firearms.



KwaZulu-Natal

SA Tactical Institute: 20 August

This event, themed "My Mom the Bodyguard" was hosted and presented by SA Tactical and co-sponsored by SAGA and East Coast Arms.

There were various speakers including Dami-an Enslin, Ridwaan Syed & Dean Niewoudt covering an introduction to SAGA, the symposium on women's awareness of self-protection and firearm safety. This was followed by a practical shooting session.

Whilst there was an initial offering of 20 spaces, the response to the event was extremely positive with 35 ladies eventually taking part. It was good to see the range of ages and diversity present, indicating a general heightened awareness of self-defence across various communities.





Continued... **Women's Month Events**

KwaZulu-Natal

Broadway Gun Club: 20 August

The Ladies High Tea on the Range was extremely well supported. An amazing 44 women took part on the day with many more now on a list for a future event.

Arranged by Trish Parshotam, the event opened with a talk by SAGA Chairman, Damian Enslin, on when you can shoot in self-defence; followed by a talk by Rowan Kirton from Kings Gun Shop about firearms, and then Zaheer Boomgaard of Springfield Arms who spoke about the mindset necessary for owning a firearm. The talks were well received with plenty of excellent questions.

Thereafter the ladies had the chance to shoot a variety of firearms from a pistol to an AK47 and they all did really well. It was wonderful to have Yolandi Ellis, a competitive sport shooter ranked third in South Africa in the Production Optics Ladies Division, there to inspire and help the ladies.

Many present had never had the opportunity or any interest in using a firearm and they all embraced what they were taught and had fun at the same time.



Continued... **Women's Month Events**

Western Cape

CHS Guns and Strand Guns: 6 August

CHS Guns, Strand Guns and SAGA hosted an introductory shoot for a phenomenal group of 20 ladies in honour of Women's Day and what a success it was! Everyone involved feels very strongly about empowering women and this event was just the setting for it.

Most of the ladies were completely new to firearms and more than a little apprehensive, but thanks to our skilled and patient instructors, everyone was made to feel comfortable from the beginners to those who already had a little experience.

Thanks to everyone who took part in the event and those who helped and contributed their time and enthusiasm.

Sponsors: SAGA, CHS Guns & Ammunition, Strand Guns, Bernhard Agencies, Bosrus, Tyldesley Jewellers, At Winkfield House Guest House, Zawadi Firearm training, Hunting & Tours

And the instructors: Gideon Joubert, Albert Faul, Butch Kriel, Robert Mickschick, Michael Nigrini, Valdor Uren, Aziza Scheidereiter





Continued... **Women's Month Events**

Western Cape

Bellville Pistol Club: 9 August

This SAGA Women's day event held at Bellville Pistol Club was attended by 15 ladies who thoroughly enjoyed the entire experience.

The ladies were treated to a lovely breakfast to kick off the day and were welcomed by Damian Enslin, Chairman of SAGA. This was followed by a theoretical component referred to as Armed and Informed presented by Hamish Deal, Western Cape SAGA Representative and Advanced Level Firearm Instructor.

This addressed critical legal aspects, Fact not Fiction, which also included an account of a real, Life & Death, situation experienced by Lance Allam, SAGA Trustee. Also discussed was the colour codes of awareness, the 4 Golden Rules of Firearms in order of priority, the 7 Fundamental principles of shooting, the components of a round, the firing sequence as well as safety precautions.

This was then extended to a practical experience for the ladies who enjoyed the opportunity to shoot various handguns, ending off with various semi-automatic rifles. We closed off the day with a prize giving and delicious lunch. Top Shot for 2022 SAGA, RDR, Quenet's Women's Day, was awarded to Carina La Cock from Durbanville.



Grandparent's Guide to Teaching Gun Safety

by George Dvorchak M.D.

11 August 2022

When I was a youngster, I was lucky to have a father who took the time to teach me to use firearms safely and responsibly. Today, my wife and I have five grandchildren - three girls and two boys aged from 5 to 13 - and all began shooting with .177-cal. pellet rifles at around age 4. Two of the girls are 13-year-old twins, and while both are excellent shots, only one has a passion for shooting. She always wants to shoot on Pap's garage range with her .177 pellet rifle, and I now trust her to independently set up the range and safely start her routine. The younger boys are 5 and 8 years old, and are learning to follow the basics of gun safety through careful and attentive instruction. If you're a grandparent, you may just be the perfect person to connect the generations of your family through the common thread of a shared hobby: shooting! Here's how I did it, and what I recommend for you.

First: Is the child ready?

Remember, each child is different, so we must make this determination using a combination of age, maturity and preferences. When our twin granddaughters were around 6 years old they would always have questions for my wife and I when they saw us shooting clay pigeons. I decided they were ready to learn by watching, so sometimes I would take them to the local sportsman's club to observe clay games being played.

As the competitors shot, I would explain the game to the girls. As part of that, I would explain the safety rules. (For example, it's easy to understand why you need ear protection when you're watching and hearing shotgun sports.) Over time, I saw those lessons stick, and that meant they had matured mentally. With that, the second aspect of training came into play.



Second: Choose gear that a child can use.

Gun fit is very important. If the stock is too long or short, it is hard to manage/aim. When the fit is right, it will feel comfortable and not awkward. That's why my next purchase was a Ruger Explorer Break-Barrel Youth .177 Pellet rifle because it is easy to cock, load and hold. When they were a bit older, I got the grandkids a .177 Gamo Shadow Whisper and didn't affix an optic so the girls could learn how to use iron sights. (I love my scoped Gamo Whisper Fusion Mach 1, but it takes too much cocking effort for the kids to do by themselves, and that takes something away from the total experience.)

Third: Start small, still and quiet.

To start them shooting, I put a 10-yard range in my garage designed for BBs and pellets. The first air rifle I purchased for them as a trainer was a Crosman M4 .177. I like the Crosman because it has an AR-type adjustable stock so I could properly fit it to my grandkids' varying heights.

I then added a Crimson Trace red dot sight to boost their initial accuracy and confidence. I had them shoot from a Caldwell Lead Sled DFT and later a Caldwell Fire Control Rest. I used these since they were secure and with all the adjustments, easily fit any size individual. Now that I had made sure there was virtually no report or recoil, sending pellets down-range resulted in many big smiles—Pap's ultimate reward!



Grandparent's Guide to Teaching Gun Safety

Fourth: Remember that children rise to your expectations of responsibility.

During each shooting session, I appoint one child to be the Range Safety Officer. A duty of that position is to make sure everyone there is behind the shooter, wearing shooting glasses and keeping their muzzles pointed in a safe direction. (Of course, I am watching like a hawk as the "real" RSO, but the kids don't need to know that.)

Fifth: Remember that the child is watching, so be honest and lead by example.

On one occasion when the one granddaughter was 11, we were doing a range session after I picked her up from school. After she shot about 10 shots, I went to change the target.

She said, "Pap, I know what you are doing. You are seeing if I am paying attention. I am touching the rifle and you walked in front of me."

I replied, "Good pick up on safety! Now for the truth, which is I am used to shooting alone and simply went to change the target."

"You did?" she asked.

"Yes, and I messed up and we need to think safety at all times. Assume nothing from anyone, no matter how experienced!"

Sixth: Listen to the child to keep it interesting for him or her.

Keeping it interesting is critical, so remember that what you find interesting and what your grandkids do may not always match. As an example, when the twins were younger, they asked me to share my chocolate-covered peppermint patties with them. Instead, I hung the (wrapper-clad, of course) patties up on the backstop and told her that if she could hit it with a pellet, she could eat it. "But if you miss," I cautioned, "that peppermint patty is mine." Needless to say I went hungry, but their smiles as they joined in our family tradition and hobby were dessert enough.

<https://www.nrafamily.org/content/grandparent-s-guide-to-teaching-gun-safety/>

Why (& How) You Should Learn To Shoot One-Handed



by Frank Melloni

4 August 2022

Quick, take a look down. Are both of your hands completely free? It isn't very likely, particularly if you are reading this piece on a tablet or smartphone. If you think about it, we spend most of the day with something in at least one of our hands.

Now, think about your last pistol training experience. I bet you shot with both hands for the duration, didn't you? Don't feel bad; that's precisely how most of us practice, and for good reason. Having both hands on the gun doubles your control and cuts felt recoil in half, so it's certainly the preferred method whenever possible. However, when life comes calling, we must be prepared to get the job done one-handed. Here are some pointers to help foster proficiency as well as a few simple, practical drills to stay fresh.

So before we start, I'm sure you have some questions like "What scenarios should I practice for?", and "Which hand should I start with?"

Asking questions like these is entirely fair, as having a reason and an outline helps us get our gear packed and push ourselves outside our comfort zone. As previously mentioned, you will likely have an arm occupied, and the most apparent solution is just to drop what you're holding.

However, if what you are holding is a tiny human being, that is no longer an option. The same holds true for the cell phone, believe it or not. Tossing your device also means throwing away the ability to dial for help, and you'll need that. Of course, all of this implies that one hand isn't already injured or under the control of an assailant, which is another highly possible scenario.

Gripping your pistol with your strong hand only is essentially just starting your two-handed grip and stopping at the point where you introduce your support hand. Yet, because this is the only hand that will be on the gun, you want to make it as perfect as possible.

Ensure that the web between your thumb and forefinger is as high as possible on the backstrap without obstructing the slide or hammer's path of travel. Your thumb should be either alongside the frame, pointing at your target, or pressed to the sky, helping to tighten your grip. Whenever possible, place said support hand across your upper torso. This keeps it out of harm's way, provides stability, and adds another layer of protection between your vital organs and an attacker.

If you haven't had any experience shooting one-handed, it's best to practice WITHOUT any ammunition. (Check your gun, then check it again!) Aside from building your grip, you should also practice your trigger control through an extended period of dry fire. This is because a perfect trigger press with flawless follow-through is critical, because you won't have your support hand to cover any of your sins. After getting comfortable handling your firearm with one hand, it's time to head to the range to practice with live ammunition.

When firing your first one-handed shots, it's best to start with a low-recoiling handgun, ideally a .22LR. If one isn't available, purchase the lightest target loads you can find and avoid any +P defensive offerings until you have established control.

Starting with a single round in the gun, present it, and then fire from the low-ready position. This will help isolate the new skill being learned without complicating things with a holster. After you have confirmed that you can handle the recoil with one hand, move on to putting multiple rounds into your gun and practice getting two, and eventually three, shots on target as fast as you can without sacrificing form.

Continued....

Feeling good? Great! Let's kick it up a notch by switching the gun over to your weak hand and repeating the process from the ground up. This is an integral part of the drill because 9 out of 10 times it will be your dominant hand that is full when you're presented with a threat. You'll notice that holding the gun on target is far more difficult, and your sight picture will likely be blurry. This is because you'll probably be presenting the gun in front of your non-dominant eye.

Fix this by sliding the firearm to the dominant side of your face or even closing the opposite eye. These are less-than-perfect solutions, but so are all emergency defensive scenarios. The key here is to break the shot faster than if it were being held in your strong hand, simply because your muscles will fatigue much earlier. The good news is that the conditioning process is relatively fast, and most of my students see progress in as little as three range trips.

In all things in life, we steer towards what is most comfortable. Unfortunately, the universe typically has other plans. The only possible way to prepare for this environment is to meet it head-on, and that means making things a little weird on the firing line. After you have conquered the techniques described above, try complicating matters by putting a hand behind your back or holding a heavy item. Since we never know what will be thrown your way, your training procedures should only be limited by safety and imagination.

<https://www.nrafamily.org/content/why-how-you-should-learn-to-shoot-one-handed/>



SAGA Membership

By being a member you keep us in 'business' and we are able to continue working for fair and just firearm rights for responsible firearm owners in South Africa.

Do you know someone who supports the right to own a firearm for lawful purposes? Refer them to SAGA today!

Rates for New Members for 2022:

Adult R260

Junior R160

Pensioner R160

Family:

1x Adult @R260 plus any number of family members @ R70 each

Join via our website at www.saga.org.za

The SAGA office is now available on WhatsApp on our cellphone number **066 003 9226**.

If you would like to send us a query or message by WhatsApp, please remember to include your Name and Membership Number (if applicable).

SAGA Corporate Membership

Please support our SAGA Corporate members where you can.

SAGA Corporate Members are clubs, associations and businesses who actively endorse the work being done by SAGA to protect firearm ownership rights in South Africa.



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