



SAPS Central Firearms Registry Accreditation as a Hunting Association: no. 1300050

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# Newsletter

*Vol. 1 (3) – 8 December 2005*

## RENEWALS ISSUE

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**THE NSA-OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN 24 TO 28 DECEMBER**  
and will open again on 29 and 30 December to assist members with last minute renewals.

Thereafter the office will be closed between 31 December and 8 January 2006.  
We open for the new year on 9 January 2006.

If you need assistance fast for last minute renewals call and make arrangements in advance please ! We are more than prepared to assist where we can, but then we must know of your need in that regard.

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### **FIREARM LICENSING**

The time for finalisation of the first batch of renewals is nearly past. We sincerely hope you are not in the queue of people that still have to complete proficiency testing!

### **SAPS FIREARM OFFICES EXTENSION OF TIMES**

Director Jaco Bothma (Central Firearms Registry) has confirmed that all Designated Firearm Officers will be at their station until 31 December 2005 and that they are geared to accept all applications for renewals of firearm licences. Go early in the morning so that you have enough time to get through the process – but in any event make sure your application is in on 31 December if it must be in – even if only half way completed !

DFOs will also keep offices open on Saturdays to assist with renewals – contact your DFO to ascertain their specific times. Probably smaller stations in the platteland will have their own times – make sure rather than be sorry !

**Don't be late with your application (after 31 December 2005) !!!**  
**The SAPS are on record that they will be severe on people who do not submit their renewals on time**

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## **EXTENSION OF CUTOFF DATE**

There is a persistent rumour doing the rounds that the Minister is going to give an extension of the deadline date! We urgently advise our members **NOT** to fall into the trap of accepting this as the truth. There is no evidence that the Minister is going to give an extension.

If it does so happen that the Minister does give extension (we think it is highly unlikely), then it will be to all's advantage. But don't ride your luck !

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## **NSA DEDICATED AWARD SCHEME**

NSA has completed it's new Manual for it's Dedicated Award Scheme, which complies with the content of the proposed new Unit Standard for Dedicated Hunters (the Unit Standard has been under consideration with SAQA since March 2005 and has not yet been approved).

The NSA new course material and Manual has been submitted to Senior Superintendent Govender of the SAPS(CFR) for recognition. Hopefully that process will be completed by the end of 2005.

So, from 1 January 2006, all members who do not hold Dedicated Hunter Status, or new members who would want to qualify to licence more than 4 firearms, can complete the new course.

The course material is available on CD or in hard copy (ring-bound A4 book). Once a member feels s/he has mastered the manual's study content, s/he can inform the office, upon which we shall send you the fill-in test (either per fax or per e-mail). The candidate will then have 2 hours in which to complete the test and re-send the answer sheet to the office per fax or per e-mail (test can be completed in the evening – just make the necessary arrangements beforehand please).

You need to score 75% in the test to be successful. In addition, we shall expect you to shoot the normal postal shooting table at any range of your choice, and to score at least 50% in the practical shooting test for hunting rifles (.22 is fine).

Upon receipt of proof of successfully completing the shooting test, and with successful completion of the theoretical test, we shall issue you with a certificate stating your dedicated hunter status.

Cost for the whole course, material, certificate, VAT and postage included, comes to R110 for the CD, and R210 for the printed material. Contact the office for detail.

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## **STATUS OF NSA DEDICATED STATUS**

There is persistently another rumour doing the rounds that certain accredited association's dedicated status is worthless and that only certain association's dedicated status can be trusted to be real.

**HERE IS THE TRUTH:** All CFR accredited hunting associations accept the dedicated status of all other accredited hunting associations. **Dedicated status is dedicated status, is dedicated status,** irrespective of the accredited association you belong to. Once an association has been accredited with the SAPS(CFR), the CFR acknowledges the fact that they accept that association's dedicated awards – so it's not up to other associations (or individuals) to decide which association's dedicated status is valid and which association's status is invalid – that decision has already been made by the CFR by accrediting that association – the CFR is the important body in this instance not other associations !

Dedicated Hunter Status with one accredited association should give you dedicated status with other accredited associations – but that decision remains the prerogative of a specific association.

It is not true that you lose your dedicated status with all associations where you have dedicated status if you should decide to discontinue membership with one association. If you would lose dedicated status because of disciplinary reasons other associations will be informed and they might decide to also suspend your status with them too, based on the reasons for the disciplinary steps. If, however, you would discontinue membership of association X because you default on payment, or other bona fide reasons, you would still hold dedicated status with association Y if you keep up your membership and submit your annual dedicated reports. Your status will be reported as such to the CFR by the specific association. The SAPS will make the necessary corrections on their system.

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## NSA POLICY POSITION ON DEDICATED STATUS

The NSA policy position is that we accept the *bona fides* of all other accredited hunting associations and will recognise such status by awarding an applicant dedicated status immediately when proof of dedicated status with another accredited association is furnished.

Until such time as there is clarity on the Unit Standard for dedicated hunters, the NSA shall in acceptance of recognition of prior learning, and in compliance with the stipulations of the Firearms Control Act (Act 60 of 2000 as amended), also award dedicated status to any member who applies to become a dedicated member on grounds of him or her furnishing proof of the following certificates:

- a. *Bona fide* Hunter Certificate issued by the South African Police Service in terms of the previous Arms and Ammunition Act of 1969.
- b. Proof of successful completion of the CHASA Hunters Proficiency Test with practical shooting test.
- c. Professional Hunters qualification certificate issued by an officially recognised PH training organisation or any Provincial Authority in South Africa.
- d. Current and valid Dedicated Hunter certificate issued by the SA Wingshooters Association, the SA Hunters and Game Conservation Association, the Confederation of Hunters' Associations of South Africa (CHASA), or any other hunting association that is accredited with the SAPS(CFR).
- e. Hunter's licence or Certificate formally issued by the EU government agencies (e.g. German *Jagdschein* or French Hunters' Licence).

In cases where individuals can clearly demonstrate expertise and long-standing experience in hunting, NSA may, after personal interviews and after having received certified declarations by individuals who are in the know of such an individual's prowess as a hunter, and knowledge of hunting in general; and after having appointed assessors to assess the person's claim, and subject to the NSA's Executive Council's decision; issue a Dedicated Hunter Certificate to such an individual. Subject to the condition that this specific individual will be a paid-up member of the NSA in good standing and meet the requirements mentioned under Learning assumed to be in place.

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## POSTAL SHOTS (competition)

Results of the shooting competition will be forwarded to members in next week once we have everything finalised.

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If you leave on holidays before you receive the next Newsletter, let us once again extend our warmest gratitude for your highly valued membership.

We wish you and yours all of the very best for the festive season, and wish you all a prosperous 2006! Please drive carefully if you have to drive, and please don't become part of the season's road incidents statistics !

REMEMBER **BACHUS** IS NOT THE LITTLE GUY WITH THE BOW AND ARROW !!!

Groetnis  
Herman Els