



Smith & Wesson Cup

2007



by Gary Fleetwood

Forty-nine Action Pistol competitors made their way to the Blacktown Pistol Club in NSW over the September/October long weekend to compete in Australia's richest prize handgun match - the Smith & Wesson Cup.

Grycol International, the Australian agent for Smith & Wesson handguns, once again donated three handguns, one for each winner of the Open, Metallic and Production class. "We recently had discussions with Smith & Wesson vice president for law enforcement sales Mr Amaro Goncalves who again pledged Smith & Wesson's support for Australian Action Pistol competitors. As the Australian agent, we are also getting behind what is obviously a very popular match," said Grycol CEO Gary Collibee.

Nominated as a National Rifle Association of America (NRA)-sanctioned regional match, the 2007 Smith & Wesson Cup/SSAA Nationals was conducted using the official NRA rules without local modification. After a very successful May 2007 Bianchi Cup for some of Australia's best Action Match competitors, the Smith & Wesson Cup brings together those who wish to be the nation's best in this international event.

With the weather being warm and clear, the allocated time for pre-match practice



Grycol Manager Stuart Collibee, left, with 2007 winners Jim Staader, Lee Webb and Darryl 'Osca' Carnicelli.

was well appreciated by interstate visitors. Co-match organiser and Blacktown Pistol Club (BPC) executive Allan Harriman said, "We have tried several new ideas this year in regards to squadding and making the process easier and more flexible on the competitors. The feedback received after the match was very positive and validates our decision for more flexibility."

Strong contingents from most states produced some very friendly, but competitive duels between top-ranking competitors. NSW IPSC shooter Jim Staader won Production class using his CZ SP01, while WA Darryl 'Osca' Carnicelli from WA came first in Metallic and NSW highlander Lee Webb won Open class. Each will now have their name inscribed upon the Smith & Wesson Cup. Osca and Lee each take home a Smith & Wesson Model 686 and Jim takes home a 'Production Class' S&W M&P self-loader in 9mm calibre.

Queenslander Brett Foster shot a personal best and came in third in Open class, just behind well-known NSW shooter Bruce Peters. Bruce also won the Seniors division. Geelong Pistol Club member Anita Mackiewicz not only celebrated Geelong's AFL Grand Final win on the match weekend, but took out first place in the Ladies event. Using her S&W Model 64, Aimpoint scope and Safariland holster, Anita has come back to Action Match after a seven-year-break shooting ICORE. Suellen Ryan from NSW followed in second and Cherie May, also from NSW, came third. BPC member Matthew Harriman won the Junior event after his recent success at Bianchi 2007.

SSAA wishes to thank Grycol, Smith & Wesson and the members and executive of the BPC for their support.

Complete scores are available at www.actionmatch.com.au



St Ives Pistol Club member Kevin Bostridge tackles the moving target.